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THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

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Galvin named new Mt. Carmel president. PAGE 5

OPINION METER
This week's poll:

Should panhandling be prohibited in the CNMI?

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The number of homes destroyed by wildfire in northern Colorado is raised to 248. ➤ PAGE 14

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Mohammed Morsi is declared the winner of Egypt's presidential election. ➤ PAGE 16

LIFE & STYLE

Jeopardy!" host Alex Trebek is recovering from a mild heart attack. ➤ PAGE 21

Alcohol involved in fatal car crash

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Traffic investigators have determined that alcohol was involved in Saturday's crash on Isa Drive on Capital Hill that killed three brothers. The case remains under further investigation to determine if speed was also a factor.

See ALCOHOL on Page 4

Saipan Air inaugural flight on hold

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Saipan Air Inc. has cancelled its much-awaited July 1 inaugural flight and its launch has been indefinitely postponed until further notice.

"Due to circumstances entirely beyond its control, Saipan Air was regretfully compelled to indefinitely postpone its scheduled air service operations to Japan and China. This decision follows months of preparation and millions of dollars in investment," said Saipan Air general counsel Steven P. Pixley.

He disclosed that Swift Air, which was supposed to provide the planes for what was being billed as the CNMI's first flagship carrier, defaulted on its contract agreement with Saipan

See SAIPAN on Page 4

IN DEFENSE OF WOMEN

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial and other leaders of island territories gather yesterday at the Saipan World Resort's Royal Taga Ballroom for the opening ceremonies of the U.S. Territory Summit on Violence Against Women. Over 120 individuals comprised of local providers and other stakeholders from the CNMI, Guam, American Samoa, Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico attend the landmark summit with the theme, "Supporting Partnerships to Address Violence Against Women."

CLARISSA V. DAVID

Lawmakers' differing views on Fund emergency

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

RELATED NEWS
➤ Fund administrator urges Legislature to override EO. PAGE 5

NMI Retirement Fund administrator Richard Villagomez urged the Legislature to override Gov. Benigno R. Fitial's executive order declaring a state of emergency for the pension agency, or at least address the Fund's specific concerns such as clarifying that trust assets will be kept separate from assets of the CNMI or its agencies and establish a mechanism in which at least $13 million annually in employer contri-

See EMERGENCY on Page 4

Mobil cuts gas prices by 10-15 cents

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Mobil Oil Mariana Islands slashed once again its pump prices by 15 cents a gallon on regular and super unleaded gasoline and by 10 cents a gallon on diesel at 4pm yesterday, giving another reprieve to Saipan motorists reeling from work hour cuts and high costs of utilities, consumer goods, and services.

Total gas price reductions on Saipan now stand at 60 to 65 cents a gallon since May 8. The last price cut of 10 cents a gallon was seven days ago.

Regular unleaded gasoline at Mobil service stations on Saipan is now $4.509 a gallon, down from $4.659 a

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Local

OPERATORS SUE OVER FLIP-FLOPPING ON MANAGAHA ACCESS

Camacho issues TRO vs Public Lands

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho issued yesterday a temporary restraining order preventing the Department of Public Lands from enforcing its decision to prohibit marine sports operators from picking up customers on Managaha Island unless they are Tasi Tours or its subcontractors.

Camacho granted the order at the request of five marine sports operators: Island Marine Sports Inc., Aquatic Marine Co. Inc. doing business as Amigo Aquatic Sports, Automarine Inc., Seahorse Inc., and BSEA Inc.

The five marine sports operators, through counsel Mark A. Scoggins, sued DPL yesterday to ask the court to invalidate the department's rule promulgated on Dec. 13, 2011, and June 14, 2012.

On Monday, July 2, the court will hear the case to determine if the restraining order is proper and if any extension is needed.

In his restraining order, Camacho barred DPL and any of its agents or representatives from taking any action to enforce the rule or interpretation of contract issued on Dec. 13, 2011, and on June 14, 2012.

DPL's rule restricts the ability of marine sports tour operators, including the five petitioners, from picking up tourists from Managaha for water sports activities, and later returning the same tourists to Managaha after the water sports activities.

Camacho ordered DPL not to restrict licensed and permitted Managaha-to-Managaha water sports activities of the petitioners.

The judge directed the Department of Public Safety to enforce the restraining order.

In December 2011, DPL barred marine sports operators from picking up tourists on Managaha unless they are Tasi Tours or its subcontractors. Tasi Tours holds an exclusive concession contract to operate on Managaha.

In May 2012, DPL reversed its December 2011 position. In June 2012, acting DPL secretary Pedro I. Itibus rescinded his May position.

This prompted the petitioners to file the lawsuit.

The petitioners asked the court to issue a judgment declaring DPL's rule and interpretation to be invalid for failure to follow the requirements of the Administrative Procedure Act.

The petitioners also sought a court order finding that DPL's interpretation of its concession agreement is unenforceable.

The marine sports tour operators provide services such as a jet ski rental, parasailing, banana boating, and other activities.

According to Scoggins, transportation to and from Managaha, together with water sports activities that take place on the way to or on the return trip from Managaha, have always been the primary focus of the five companies.

Scoggins said the five companies have engaged in Managaha-to-Managaha water sports for many years, some for 20 years or more.

The lawyer asserted that there is no question that the rule-making of Dec. 13, 2011, was not taken in observance of any of the procedural requirements of the Administrative Procedure Act.

The requirements, Scoggins said, include the necessity for notice and an opportunity to comment, approval by the attorney general, and publication in the *Commonwealth Register,* among others.

"None of these steps were ever taken by DPL," he said.

Even if DPL properly followed the procedural requirements, Scoggins said that DPL has no constitutional or statutory authority to regulate business taking place off Managaha, or to regulate the marine sports activities themselves.

He said that access to Managaha is critical to the success and survival of petitioners' businesses.

"Some or all of the businesses will be forced to shut down or drastically scale back operations, throwing many employees out of work, if enforcement of the new rule continues much longer," he added.

'US territories must work together to address violence against women'

Director Nikolao I. Pula Jr. of the U.S. Department of Interior Office of Insular Affairs delivers welcoming remarks for yesterday's opening of the U.S. Territory Summit on Violence Against Women at Saipan World Resort's Royal Taga Ballroom.
CLARISSA V. DAVID

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
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REPORTER

Director Nikolao I. Pula Jr. of the U.S. Department of Interior Office of Insular Affairs called on the nation's island territories to collaborate in addressing the serious issue of violence against women, a crime that "will no longer be tolerated" in today's society with the effective implementation of the Violence Against Women Act of 1994.

"It is significant that the U.S. territories work together to combat such a global issue by sharing successes, challenges, ideas, and strategies across the U.S. territories. We will not only find innovative new ways to address an old problem but also create new paths for others to follow," said Pula.

Pula was among the several key individuals who delivered welcoming and opening remarks for yesterday's opening of the U.S. Territory Summit on Violence Against Women presented by the CNMI Criminal Justice Planning Agency and the Northern Marianas Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence, in partnership with the National Organization of Sisters of Color Ending Sexual Assault and the U.S. Department of Justice's Office on Violence Against Women.

The summit's theme is "Supporting Partnerships to Address Violence Against Women."

The U.S. Territory Summit—the first of its kind—convened at Saipan World Resort's Royal Taga Ballroom over 120 individuals composed of key island officials, local providers, and other stakeholders from the CNMI, Guam, American Samoa, U.S. Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico.

Pula, in his remarks, said the enactment of VAWA changed the landscape for victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, putting an end to the "deafening silence" that once veiled this issue.

He said the success of VAWA is evident in the progress it has made following its implementation, setting in motion changes in national and state laws and programs and revolutionizing communities in terms of reporting these crimes and responding to victims.

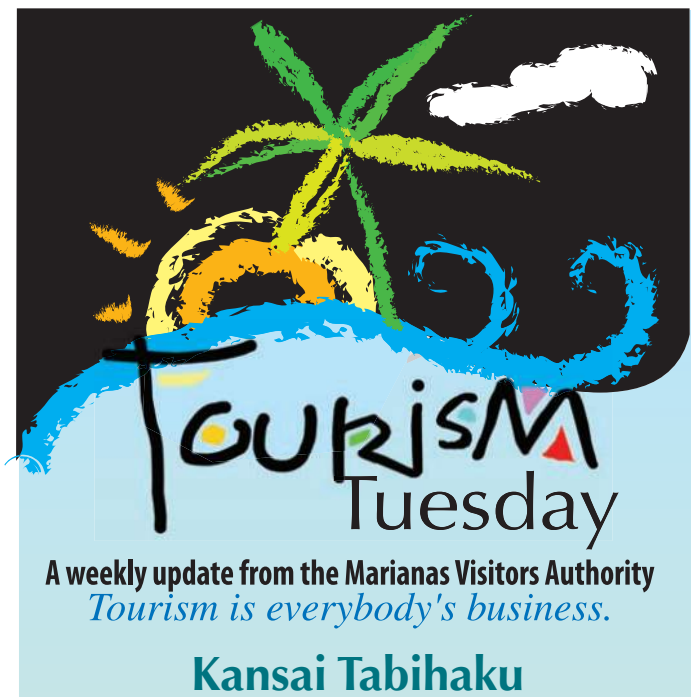
Pula noted, though, that limited resources hamper efforts to provide a wider range of services to island communities, thus the need for partnerships with judicial executives, law enforcement, victim advocates, healthcare providers, faith leaders, and other stakeholders to provide victims with the protection and services they need.

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial reiterated the U.S. territories' commitment to put an end to violence against women, which "unfortunately exists but is not part of the island culture."

Fitial said the islands' geographic disconnect from the U.S. mainland prompts these communities to innovate and create new strategies and approaches, emphasizing that the islanders' "resiliency" motivates them to come up with "sensible solutions" to pressing issues such as that of violence.

The summit will be highlighted by a series of presentations and sessions discussing specific experiences and case programs involving various island territories as well as strategic approaches. Yesterday's opening event featured a pre-summit session titled, "The Neurobiology of Trauma: Practical Advocacy and Counseling Applications" by Rev. Santa CanteWi Molina-Marshall, director of DC Rape Crisis Center's Counseling and Advocacy.

By the end of the weeklong summit, participants are expected to craft a comprehensive blueprint that will address the issue on violence against women on each island territory based on all the information acquired from the event.



A weekly update from the Marianas Visitors Authority
Tourism is everybody's business.

Kansai Tabihaku 2012 Trade Show

The Marianas Visitors Authority (MVA) participated in the Kansai Tabihaku 2012 held at Kansai International Airport on May 19-20, 2012.

Approximately 35,000 peopled visited the 2-day event. The Northern Mariana Islands' booth was located next to Asiana Airlines, as the travel partners promoted summer products for the Northern Marianas together. The MVA conducted a 45-minute Marianas seminar, introducing the annual Saipan Marathon with this year's video to 50 attendees. Marianas Sports Goodwill Ambassador and Saipan Marathon supporter Hazama Kampei also participated in the event and conducted an Earth Marathon talk show on the main stage.

Saipan-da! appeared during the event and a 20-minute quiz show was also held on the stage.

So far this fiscal year, the Northern Marianas has received 90,313 visitors from Japan.

Have an upcoming public event? Let the community AND visitors know by posting it on the MVA Calendar of Events at www.mymarianas.com.

MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY

This Tourism Tuesday space is provided by Saipan Tribune

Fitial exempts some OIA-funded workers from austerity

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial said on Sunday that he will tell U.S. Interior's Office of Insular Affairs Director Nik Pula this week that his administration is lifting the 16-hour work cut for some OIA-funded employees but only on a case-by-case basis and will not pay them for overtime work.

At the same time, Fitial decided to say "no" to the Judiciary's request to exempt employees from 64-hour work every two weeks.

The governor said the money that the Judiciary wanted to use to cover for the restoration of 80 hours is the savings from a current vacancy in the Superior Court. Fitial has yet to appoint a new justice in the upper court.

OIA's Pula is currently on island. He earlier said he will bring up with the governor once again Interior Assistant Secretary for Insular Affairs Tony Babauta's request in January to exempt from austerity the employees that are working on OIA-funded programs such as the brown tree snake control program and the coral reef protection program.

Press secretary Angel Demapan said yesterday that Fitial and Pula have yet to meet on this issue. However, Fitial and Pula met on different occasions last week but on different functions and issues

Fitial said his administration has a "formula" on who to exempt or not from the austerity Fridays.

"That formula, if they are essential, then we will allow federal funds to be expended to pay regular, not overtime. In other words, if they worked 12 hours one date, we will pay eight hours regular and not four hours overtime but four hours regular," Fitial said in an interview at the Republican Party of the CNMI Association kickoff rally in Susupe on Sunday.

The governor said it is not automatic restoration of 80 work hours biweekly for all of the OIA-funded employees.

He said employees working on brown tree snake control on Fridays, for example, will be allowed to work that day if really needed. But if there is no work that needs to be done on certain Fridays, then the government will not allow these program employees to report for work.

"Only on essentials. …We don't want to pay people 80 hours just so people get to the office and don't have anything to do," he said. "Austerity is no-work Friday, so we don't want people to go to the office and pay electricity [for that]; only those that are essentials."

Pula said Interior understands the Fitial administration's reasoning to keep morale high, but at the same time wants these important OIA-funded programs to be fully implemented in the CNMI.

Because of worsening financial problems, the governor subjected all executive departments and agencies to 16-hour work cuts per pay period, covering local and federally funded personnel. Only certain personnel at the departments of Public Safety and Corrections and the Emergency Management Office are exempted from the 16-hour work cuts.

Lions Club bill garners congressional support

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
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REPORTER

The support of CNMI and Guam delegates, along with other members of the U.S. Congress, for House Bill 2139 or the Lions Century of Service Commemorative Coin Act attests to the contributions of the local Lions Clubs in the region, according to local Lions club officers.

H.R. 2139 would require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint and issue not more than 400,000 $1 coins in commemoration of the centennial of the Lions Clubs International, the world's largest service club organization founded on June 17, 1917, by Chicago business leader Melvin Jones.

LCI has programs and activities carried out by more than 45,000 clubs with over 1.35 million members worldwide.

Lions Clubs are known for their efforts in five key areas of service: preserving sight, combating disability, promoting health, serving youth and providing disaster relief.

Here in the Northern Marianas Islands, three Lions Clubs are under LCI: the Saipan Fil-Am, Saipan Marianas, and the Saipan Unity Lions clubs.

Apollo M. Madriaga, president of the Saipan Marianas Lions Club, disclosed Friday that CNMI Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan has joined the growing number of representatives who have co-sponsored the bill by Sen. Jerry Moran and Rep. Peter Roskam.

Madriaga, who is also the Information Technology Committee co-chair of LCI District 204, said that Guam Delegate Madeleine Bordallo co-sponsored the same bill last Nov. 15. The number of the bill's co-sponsors has now reached 260.

"Lions Clubs are more recognized in Guam than here in the Commonwealth," he said. "With this bill in the U.S. Congress and the support of Delegate Kilili, we hope that we'll raise more awareness about this international club, which aims to provide assistance to the community and link with other non-profit organizations to offer more services to the public."

Ladyvir Canape, incoming region chairperson of District 204, which also covers the Lions Clubs in Guam, said that Sablan's support acknowledges the existence not only of LCI but also the local Lions Clubs in the Marianas.

"His support is very overwhelming. We sincerely hope that with the many co-sponsors of the bill, it would be enacted into law because it would help significantly the efforts of Lions Clubs International to raise funds and reach out to more people in need," Canape told *Saipan Tribune*.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Please be advised that IT&E will conduct network maintenance on Wednesday, June 27 between 12:01am to 5:00am. While IT&E does not anticipate any downtime, Prepaid, SMS and Voicemail service in the CNMI and Guam will be affected and may be temporarily interrupted during the maintenance period. Tuesday morning's maintenance window is part of IT&E's network upgrade that will provide a more reliable service to the CNMI and Guam.

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Bank fraud suspect arrested anew for allegedly applying for Phil. passport

Earl Eric Cruz Mirano, a 32-year-old man facing charges of conspiring to commit bank fraud, was arrested again yesterday after the Federal Bureau of Investigation found out that he had applied for a Philippine passport.

Federal agents picked up Mirano after U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona issued the arrest warrant yesterday. No bail was set.

Mirano was taken to court yesterday afternoon. As of press time, there was no information as to what transpired at the hearing.

It was the U.S. Probation Office that asked the court to issue the arrest warrant.

The court had allowed Mirano to remain free while his bank fraud case remains pending but one of the special conditions is that he must not obtain a passport or other international travel document.

Probation Officer Gregory F. Arriola stated in the petition that, on June 21, 2012, FBI special agent Hae Jun Park informed him that Mirano had applied for a Philippine passport and had recently picked up a document from the Philippine Consulate General.

The following day, Arriola said, he received from Park a photocopied document titled "Passport application enrollment certificate."

Arriola said the document indicated that Mirano had applied for a Philippine passport on April 26, 2012. He said a stamp on the document signified that it was released on June 20, 2012.

Arriola noted that Mirano had informed U.S. probation officer Margarita Wonenberg during a bail interview that his passport was expired and was at his home.

Soon after that, Mirano allegedly told Arriola that he could not locate his passport, but gave a copy of the document.

Arriola said the Philippine passport application form indicated that he had lost his passport, yet included an affidavit attesting to having a mutilated passport.

The probation officer said the copy of the expired/mutilated passport with the application form does not match the passport copy that Mirano provided him.

Last month, Arriola also informed the court that Mirano admitted to a U.S. probation officer that he used methamphetamine or "ice" on April 13, 2012, while released on bail in his federal criminal case.

The U.S. government recently filed a new indictment against Mirano and Mohammad Jahangir Miah in the scheme to cash fraudulent CNMI tax refund checks. The new indictment charged Miah and Mirano with conspiracy to commit bank fraud and bank fraud.

Last month, police arrested Mirano on charges of misuse of a credit card and theft by deception. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

MOBIL

From Page 1

gallon because of the 15-cent cut.

Mobil's super unleaded gasoline is now $4.829, from the previous price of $4.979 a gallon.

Diesel at Mobil stations is now $4.919 a gallon, after a 10-cent cut.

As of early last night, Shell Marianas has yet to change its pump prices. Mobil and Shell have historically mirrored each other's prices changes, so Shell is expected to follow suit soon.

Ranjit Saha, a taxi driver since 2004, said it's a big relief that gas prices are continuing to go down, although the number of taxi customers is still low.

"We're not having a lot of customers so we spend less on fuel. Ideal situation would be if we have lots of taxi customers and low gas price," Saha told *Saipan Tribune.*

To demonstrate how slow the current taxi business, he said he only spends $10 to $15 on gasoline a day because there's not much tourists to transport. He said he used to pump an average of $20 every day because he had lots of customers.

While yesterday's price cuts bring vehicle fuel prices on Saipan to below $5 a gallon, the CNMI—especially Rota—still has the dubious distinction of having the highest gas prices on American soil.

CNMI prices range from $4.509 to over $6 a gallon, but average price in the U.S. is $3.411 a gallon on regular gas on Sunday.

Rep. Stanley Torres (Ind-Saipan), chairman of the House Committee on Public Utilities, Transportation and Communications, said last night that Mobil "should have cut prices by 80 cents right off the bat in May and everybody would really be happy."

"I think Mobil is stalling the price cuts, when they could bring it down once," Torres said.

Torres also said all other goods and services relying on fuel should also start reducing their prices because fuel prices have been steadily dropping.

"[The Commonwealth Utilities Corp.] should on their own initiative cut power rates because fuel is down by over 60 cents since May," he added.

Mobil earlier said that prices of gasoline are determined by a number of factors, including changes in the world market wholesale prices of gasoline, regional gasoline supply and demand balance, transportation costs, insurance, local distribution, marketing costs, government regulations, taxes, competitive market forces, and investments in retail stations and distribution terminals.

Oil fell to near $79 a barrel Monday in Asia as Europe's economic woes offset a supply disruption from a storm that shut down about a quarter of crude output in the Gulf of Mexico, according to Associated Press reports.

Crude has plunged from $106 less than two months ago amid signs of slowing economic growth and oil demand in the U.S., Europe, and China. Capital Economics said it expects Brent crude to fall to as low as $70 during the next 18 months.

"The main downside risk to oil prices comes from the crisis in the euro-zone, which we do expect to worsen," Capital Economics said in a report. "However, after such precipitate declines in oil prices, it would not be surprising to see a small, albeit temporary, bounce." ***(With reports from AP)***

ALCOHOL

From Page 1

Police officer Jason Tarkong said yesterday that the weather was clear and the road surface was dry at the time of the accident.

"However, the contour of the road was on a downhill curve. Due to the seriousness of the injuries, the Department of Public Safety's Traffic Investigation Unit was activated to further investigate the accident," he said.

Tarkong did not release the names of the victims, but specified in a press statement their ages as well as descriptions of injuries.

He said the truck's driver was 30 years old and a resident of Kagman, who sustained trauma to the head, skull fracture, and multiple lacerations in the upper body. He said the center passenger was a 37-year-old male from Garapan who sustained massive internal injuries. The passenger on the right was 36 years old from As Matuis and had a broken neck.

Independent sources identified the driver as David Nekaifes, while the center passenger was Antonio "Xcalibur" Nekaifes, and the passenger on the right was Elias Nekaifes.

Sources said that David was a nurse, while Elias was an air-con technician. Antonio used to be a heavyweight mixed martial arts fighter. The victims are brothers of Gov. Benigno R. Fitial's close-in security/driver police captain Jermaine Wabol Nekaifes.

Tarkong said that DPS Central dispatched Traffic Units to Isa Drive south of Capitol Hill Market after receiving a call on Saturday at 11:12am about an auto accident involving serious injuries.

Tarkong said the accident occurred on the northbound shoulder of Isa Drive on Capitol Hill by the PSCT barracks, located south of the residence of Jose Bermudes.

The light blue 2003 Mazda B2300 pickup truck had moderate damage all over the body.

Preliminary police investigation showed that the three Nekaifes brothers were found trapped inside the pickup truck and were unresponsive. The truck had apparently overturned and then came to rest on its driver side.

DPS rescue and medic personnel extracted the three occupants from the truck using the "Jaws of Life," a huge tool used to extricate people from mangled cars.

The three brothers were rushed to the Commonwealth Health Center's emergency room where Dr. Gregory Kotheimer pronounced them dead on arrival.

Saipan Tribune learned that the truck was going to Kagman when it lost control, swerved to the opposite lane, careened into a mound of soil, and then slammed into a makeshift garage.

District court security officer Donny Fejeran said he was shocked and saddened after a member of the victims' family called to tell him about the incident Saturday night.

Fejeran said Elias and Antonio were his good friends as they grew together and went to same schools. Fejeran and Elias were classmates in 7th grade at Oleai Elementary School. The two were classmates again in some subjects at Hopwood Junior High School and Marianas High School.

Fejeran and Antonio would also see each other in schools during elementary and high school.

"I made them involved in physical sports," said Fejeran, referring to football and MMA.

Elias and Antonio used to play as lineman in the Commonwealth Football League that shut down in 2005.

Fejeran said he encouraged Elias to also join MMA like Antonio because he was strong, but he declined.

"Elias was a very quiet guy, while Ton was more outgoing," Fejeran said. "I was very sad because Elias and Ton were my good friends."

EMERGENCY

From Page 1

butions is deposited to the trust for it to last until 2014.

Most Senate and House members interviewed yesterday said they are still undecided on the Fund's requested rejection of the EO, and only a few are either voting "yes" or "no."

Rep. Frank Dela Cruz (R-Saipan), meanwhile, is now drafting a letter asking the Office of the Public Auditor to audit the Fund's legal expenses, reportedly reaching $1.2 million in connection with the Fund's filing of Chapter 11 bankruptcy petition that a federal court later dismissed.

"At this point in time, I will not consider rejecting the governor's EO. The question now is whether the Fund will continue hiring attorneys at astronomical cost…and to think they lost the [bankruptcy] case. Unbelievable," Dela Cruz told *Saipan Tribune.*

He added that he will ask whether an RFP was issued to solicit legal counsel for the bankruptcy filing. "If not, why not?" he asked.

Weighing options

Manglona, in an interview yesterday, reiterated that the Senate leadership is poised to consider rejecting the governor's Fund EO for a host of reasons.

He said the Senate will meet again today with Fund officials to discuss the pension agency in general and the governor's emergency declaration.

"We also want to hear directly from them their justification and analysis on the dangers and risks if the EO is not rejected or amended," Manglona said.

Senate floor leader Pete Reyes (R-Saipan), for his part, said he will vote "no" to rejecting the EO "because the governor's action is a plan to rescue the Fund while the Legislature really has no plan."

House floor leader George Camacho (Ind-Saipan) and Rep. Trenton Conner separately said they haven't seen the Fund letter yet so they cannot comment on the Fund's request yet.

Sen. Frank Cruz (R-Tinian) said he would like to hear first the Fund's plan in today's meeting with senators before commenting on either to reject the EO or not.

Rep. Fred Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan) said he is not convinced yet that the current ideas tossed around to save the Fund are sufficient enough and until he gets more information, he is holding off voting on rejecting or amending the EO.

However, if the goal of the EO were simply to re-organize the Retirement Fund there is no need to declare a state of emergency. With three agencies under "state of emergency" and all desperately in need of cash, the Fund is concerned that the EO appears to be setting the stage to "reprogram" Fund assets for purposes other than the paying of benefits to members.

The Senate president said these details will be included in today's meeting with the Fund.

Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos, the administration's point man in efforts to save the Fund, earlier told reporters that the administration retains the Fund EO despite calls for its rejection.

Manglona said it's not only the Retirement Fund, but also the Commonwealth Retirees Association that is asking the Legislature to reject the governor's EO on the Fund.

SAIPAN

From Page 1

Air and the former will take legal actions as a result. He did not elaborate.

Pixley described the issue as a developing situation and Saipan Air will provide further information as it becomes available.

The airline initially planned to provide daily flights to Narita, Japan and four times a week to Beijing, China. By Aug. 1, the airline had planned to offer daily flights to Osaka, Japan and thrice-a-week flights to Shenyang, China.

Saipan Air's postponement of its inaugural flight came as a surprise to many in the CNMI.

Press secretary Angel A. Demapan, for one, admitted that much of the details surrounding this development have yet to be communicated to the Fitial administration.

Nonetheless, he said: "The administration is deeply saddened that the long awaited and much anticipated launching of Saipan Air has come to a standstill."

"The administration would certainly like to learn more of the details leading to this sudden decision. Saipan Air was to serve as a major opportunity to increase our visitor arrivals and to create job opportunities for our people," he told *Saipan Tribune.*

Marianas Visitors Authority managing director Perry Tenorio was saddened by the postponement, admitting also that he has no full knowledge about Saipan Air's decision as of last night.

"Obviously, we're very sad about this development. We were very excited to work along with Saipan Air and other carriers to increase capacity to our island. We're just hoping that whatever issues they may have, they may resolve it quickly so they can move forward with their plans to bring the needed capacity from Japan and China," Tenorio said yesterday.

The new carrier was intended to gain back the Japanese traffic the islands lost after Japan Airlines pulled out from the islands in October 2005, taking with it 182,000 air seats annually. Japanese arrivals, which accounted for 71 percent of arrivals, immediately declined by 25 percent and have been shrinking since.

Saipan Tribune learned that Saipan Air's services were initially supposed to be operated as charters by Swift Air, reducing risk for Saipan Air as well as avoid a lengthy U.S. process to secure an air operator's certificate.

Based on Swift Air website, it a private airline company that was created in 1986 with two planes offering passenger flights.

Fund administrator urges Legislature to override EO

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

NMI Retirement Fund administrator Richard Villagomez is urging the Legislature to override the executive order issued by Gov. Benigno R. Fitial placing the pension agency under a state of emergency.

Fitial placed the Fund on a state of emergency last April 7, resulting in the dissolution of its board and the transfer of the agency's functions under the Department of Finance, with the full control of the Executive Branch.

Before it takes effect, the Legislature has to support it within 60 days. If the Legislature disagrees with the order, it may modify or reject it outright during the grace period.

Villagomez revealed that the executive order has given people a lot more to think about down to the very foundation of the system of government.

He said if the goal of the executive order were simply to reorganize the Fund, there is no need to declare a state of emergency because the reorganization can occur via Article 3 Section 15 alone of the Constitution.

Under the law, the governor may declare a state of emergency in the case of invasion, civil disturbance, natural disaster, or other calamity and may mobilize available resources to respond to that emergency. Clearly, Villagomez said, these events do not describe a financial difficulty of the government's own making.

Three autonomous agencies are now under a state of emergency: the Commonwealth Utilities Corp., Commonwealth Health Center, and the Fund.

Because these agencies are desperately in need of cash, the executive order appears to be setting the stage to "reprogram" Fund assets for purposes other than paying of benefits to members, Villagomez said.

The Fund, compared to the two agencies under emergency, is the only one with cash.

Villagomez cited early reports where the governor asserted the "need for a unified" government approach to resolve the fiscal crises of the government and CUC.

He also cited earlier statements of the Office of the Attorney General where it was asserted that the balanced budget amendment gives the governor the authority to reduce pensions unilaterally. He said this is a strong indication that the government will not meet its obligations to retirees under the executive order.

"Though we've been advised by Lt. Gov. Inos that Fund assets will be protected and only be used for benefit payments, it is not unfathomable at this point that the intent of the E.O. is to facilitate this new 'unified approach.' We strenuously object to any reprogramming and use of Fund assets for other purposes," said Villagomez in his letter dated Friday.

If the Legislature is not inclined to reject the governor's executive order, Villagomez, listed some areas of concern that the Legislature needs to address in supporting or modifying the order: reconfirm that the Fund assets are held in trust for the benefit of members; ensure a mechanism for appointment of an independent fiduciary over trust assets with authority to enforce the Retirement Fund Act against the government; ensure that the assets of the trust can only be disbursed for benefits of members; clarify that trust assets will be kept separate from assets of the CNMI or its agencies; and ensure that operations will be shielded from outside influence or control.

Villagomez said the Legislature should also establish a mechanism for money to be deposited to the trust to ensure continued benefits and require that the professional expertise of an actuary be obtained to fully illustrate and plan around any major changes to the Fund.

Villagomez, whose contract is expiring in August, admitted that he is under no illusion that he will be retained. Whether he will be retained or the board functions, what matters now "is that some mechanism and independent structure is maintained and one or more independent fiduciaries remains responsible to maximize the value of the trust."

Galvin quits NMC post; named new Mt. Carmel president

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Outgoing Board of Education member Galvin Deleon Guerrero has been appointed as the new president of Mount Carmel School, succeeding Margaret C. Dela Cruz.

Dela Cruz was president of Mt. Carmel School for 12 years. She recently stepped down for personal reasons.

Guerrero

Because of his new appointment, Deleon Guerrero resigned from Northern Marianas College, where he serves as director of institutional effectiveness and accreditation liaison officer.

He assured, however, that he will continue to help and support the college's completion of its comprehensive self-evaluation study, which is due in August.

Deleon Guerrero's appointment was announced by Fr. Ryan Jimenez, the Apostolic Administrator of the Diocese of Chalan Kanoa. Jimenez assured of a smooth transition to the new president.

"Mr. Deleon Guerrero is a Knight through and through. For many years, Galvin worked well with Mrs. Dela Cruz while she was the president, whether as principal, director of institutional development, drama advisor, and speech and mock trial coach. We are confident that this transition will be smooth and seamless," said Jimenez.

Joseph LG. Taijeron, chairman of the Mount Carmel School board of directors, expressed appreciation and support for both Dela Cruz and Deleon Guerrero.

"We are grateful to Mrs. Dela Cruz for her years of service to the school and we are excited to have Mr. Deleon Guerrero on board. Galvin is a product of the school and has proven his commitment as a prominent educator and as a Knight," said Taijeron.

Mount Carmel alumni are referred to as Knights.

No stranger to the school, Deleon Guerrero attended Mount Carmel School from first through 12th grade, graduating in 1991 with honors and the Governor's Leadership Award and the Bishop's Award. Known by many as "Mr. G," Deleon Guerrero returns to the school with almost 20 years of experience in education. After graduating in 1996 with his bachelor's degree in English Literature from the University of Puget Sound, Deleon Guerrero worked at Mount Carmel as a teacher, vice principal, and director of institutional development until 2003.

From 2003 through 2005, Deleon Guerrero served as a special assistant to then governor Juan Nekai Babauta, assisting primarily with education policy. In 2005, he returned to the school as its principal and went on to earn his master's degree in Catholic School Administration from the University of San Francisco. He served as principal until 2009, when he moved to NMC where he has been the director of institutional effectiveness and accreditation liaison officer.

Deleon Guerrero has also served on numerous education-related boards, including NMC's Board of Regents, the Northern Marianas Council for the Humanities, the Northern Marianas Arts Council, and, since 2008, the Public School System's Board of Education. He has also been very active in advising and coaching Mount Carmel's Theatre Club, Mock Trial Team, and AG Cup program.

"I am very humbled by this privilege to lead our island's only Catholic school," Deleon Guerrero said. "Despite the many challenges we face, I look forward to building on Mrs. Dela Cruz's legacy as we prepare our students to become competitive yet humane participants in the 21st century global marketplace."

As for his departure from NMC, Deleon Guerrero said, "I remain committed to helping the college prepare its 2012 Comprehensive Self-Evaluation Report for the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges due in August."

Deleon Guerrero will transition from his current work at NMC to Mount Carmel over the summer, gearing up for the opening of classes on Aug. 9.

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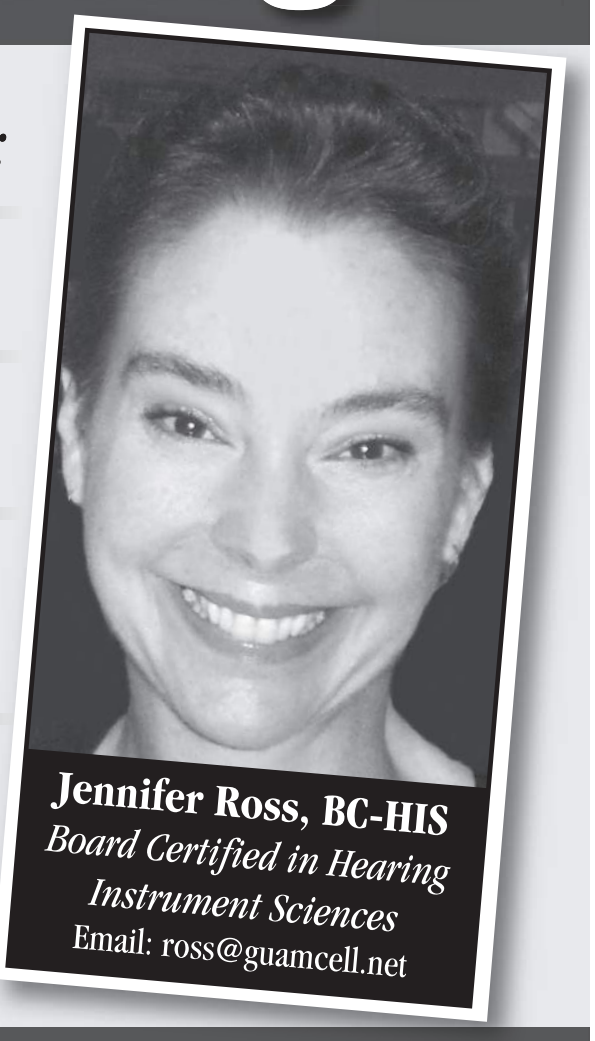

Jennifer Ross, BC-HIS
Board Certified in Hearing Instrument Sciences
Email: ross@guamcell.net

- Friday, June 29th 8:00am - 5:00pm
- Saturday, June 30th 9:00am - 3:00pm

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APIL MEET

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Members of the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures pose for a group photo during the opening ceremonies for the 31st General Assembly on Capital Hill on Wednesday. APIL adopted 20 resolutions that included proposed actions on a host of issues including combating climate change and strengthening tourism.

Kilili campaign, Fitial administration spar on issues again

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan's (Ind-MP) campaign said yesterday that the CNMI people are tired of politics and the blame-game, and instead want solutions and results that's why people reelected Sablan to Congress in 2010. But the Fitial administration reiterated yesterday its criticism against Sablan.

The Kilili for Congress campaign was responding to attacks against the delegate by Republican Party of the CNMI Association president, Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, and other GOP members during the party's attacks kickoff rally on Sunday in Susupe.

In a statement, the Sablan campaign said Sablan focuses on the issues and solving problems, that is why his work in Congress produces results.

"Kilili is focused on finding solutions, not blame," the Sablan campaign said.

Fitial and former governor Juan N. Babauta, now chief executive officer of the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp., criticized Sablan on Sunday for taking credit for the work of others. Babauta ran but lost to Sablan in the previous delegate races.

Republicans urged CNMI voters on Sunday to replace Sablan with Dr. Ignacia T. Demapan, an educator for 23 years including being principal of Kagman Elementary School.

But the Sablan campaign said the delegate's record speaks for itself.

"Take health care for example. Working with the other island delegates, Kilili made sure the Northern Marianas was included in Obamacare, giving CHC an extra $110 million for Medicaid patients," the campaign said.

Press secretary Angel Demapan, when asked for comment, said from the standpoint of the Fitial administration, while Obamacare claims to provide an additional $110 million in Medicaid funds, "the CNMI is financially incapable of meeting the local match requirement to even expend all these funds."

"This is why Gov. Fitial has long urged the delegate to instead focus on securing a waiver for the matching requirement, or even reduced the mandatory matching percentage. Other states and territories have successfully achieved this feat, why not the CNMI? To simply dangle a $110 million price tag in the air knowing full well that the Commonwealth cannot match it is insanely ludicrous," Demapan said.

The Kilili campaign also said that just last week the $608,000 Kagman Community Health Center grant was announced, paid for by Obamacare. Also announced last week was $291,000 in rebates for Northern Mariana Islands families that buy health insurance, paid for by Obamacare.

Demapan said the governor "finds this latest announcement by the delegate's office to be yet another effort of political grandstanding."

"There were so many stakeholders involved in securing this grant and they were not even recognized for their hard work. The governor is grateful for this new funding awarded to the CNMI and acknowledges that this would not have been possible if it were not for the work of the key officials of the former Department of Public Health, the now Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation, the Kagman community group's board of directors and members, and the two representatives from Precinct 5. These were the public servants that worked day and night to put together this grant application package. They are the ones who deserve proper recognition for bringing such a welcomed development to the community of Kagman," Demapan said.

Rep. Fred Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan), one of the representatives representing Kagman, separately said yesterday he's grateful to all those who made the grant award possible.

The Kilili campaign also said beyond health care, Sablan has worked from day one to bring federal dollars to help the CNMI.

Sablan voted for the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, which brought $119 million to the CNMI. That money kept teachers working and schools open, brought green energy to schools, got laptops to students, and gave families up to $800 off their taxes.

The Fitial administration once again said ARRA "was an initiative of the U.S. president, not the U.S. Congress."

"Furthermore, the CNMI has the unfortunate situation of having a non-voting delegate in Congress. That being said, how exactly does a non-voting delegate claim to have voted on legislation?" the press secretary added.

The Sablan campaign also said the delegate increased water and sewer grants from less than $1 million a year to over $36 million in four years, helping bring 24-hour water to almost every home on Saipan.

"Congressman Kilili had food stamp funding increased first by 13.6 percent, then by another $1 million this year. Kilili doesn't consider it 'welfare' because he knows that it is basic human decency to help feed the hungry," the campaign said.

Fitial said Sablan focused on food stamp funding issues, making it appear as though the CNMI is a welfare state. The governor said the delegate should focus on developing the economy so that people won't have to rely on food stamps.

Sablan and Fitial do not see eye to eye on a host of issues.

Sablan is the CNMI's first nonvoting delegate to the U.S. House of Representatives as a result of a law that also placed local immigration under federal control. He won the first delegate race in 2008 and was sworn into office in 2009.

He was re-elected in the November 2010 race and took his second oath of office in January 2011. He is seeking a third term.

Republicans also criticized on Sunday the CNMI Senate for not working with the Fitial administration.

Senate President Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota) said the Senate has been trying to work with the administration to help the NMI Retirement Fund, the Commonwealth Health Center and the Commonwealth Utilities Corp., among other things, but Manglona said the administration seems to be always focused on ramming down the Senate's throat the legalization of casino gaming on Saipan.

Manglona hopes that Saipan voters will sign an ongoing petition drive so that the question can be placed on the Nov. 6 ballot for people to decide, and so that proponents will not insist on passage of bill to legalize it.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Coastal Resources Management
Caller Box 10007, Springs Plaza, Middle Road, Saipan, MP 96950
Website: www.crm.gov.mp
Tel. (670) 664-8300 • Fax (670) 664-8315

NOTICE OF APPLICATION
June 26 , 2012

THE FOLLOWING IS A PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF COASTAL PERMIT APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BY THE CRM OFFICES:

APPLICANT	DATE APPLICATION RECEIVED	APPLICATION PROJECT DESCRIPTION	LOCATION	TYPE	STATUS
1. C.U.C	05/09/2012 SPIm-2012-X-036	Installation New Fuel Tank	Lower Base	Ports & Industrial APC	Approved (06/06/2012)*
2. D.P.W	05/15/2012 SSm-2012-X-037	Road Improvement	Chalan Kanoa	Shoreline APC	Under Review
3. Kan Pacific, Ltd..	05/22/2012 SSm-2012-X-038	Tree Trimming	Marpi	Shoreline APC	Approved (06/06/2012)*
4. Network Japan	06/04/2012 SSm-2012-X-039	Photographic Activities	Saipan Shoreline	Shoreline APC	Approved (06/05/2012)*
5. DTC Saipan	06/04/2012 SSm-2012-X-040	Photographic Activities	Saipan Shoreline	Shoreline APC	Approved (06/05/2012)*

Publication of the above list is in accordance with CRM Regulations, which require all permit applications to be published in a local newspaper within 15 days of receipt of application. The list reflects recently received permit applications and those with a recent change in status. New applications are marked with an asterisk (*).

The Public is invited to submit written comments regarding any of the above projects for which a permit decision has not been issued. All permit comments should identify the project by application number. Your comments should be mailed or hand-delivered to the CRM Office. All persons who desire a public hearing regarding any project may do so by submitting a written request for a public hearing to the CRM Office within fourteen (14) days for minor permits (APC's) and proposed amended major sitings. Public Hearings are required for all new major siting projects. All public hearing notices are published in a local newspaper of general circulation. Residents of Rota and Tinian may submit comments and hearing requests to their local CRM Coordinator. Persons wishing to retain the right to appeal a CRM Permit decision must file a notice of appeal with the CRM office within thirty (30) days of the issuance of the CRM permit decision as provided in Part 200 § 15-10-235 of the CRM Regulations.

Delta to add four weekly flights this summer

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Delta Air Lines will increase its seat capacity to the Commonwealth this summer by adding four new flights from key markets in Japan, according to Asia Pacific managing director Jeff Bernier.

Speaking before members of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce and Marianas Visitors Authority during a special luncheon meeting yesterday at Pacific Islands Club, Bernier said that Delta will increase its 14 weekly services between Tokyo and the CNMI last summer to 18 weekly flights this summer.

The four new flights translate to almost 800 additional seats from the Japan market, he said.

Bernier said that Delta's current loads, depending on season, range between 75 and 80 percent each month.

Besides the increased capacity to Saipan, Bernier also reaffirmed the company's commitment to continue flying to the CNMI, which it has been serving for 20 years now.

"We've been here for 20 years and we don't have plans to go anywhere because we continuously receive great support from all of you and we're asking that continuous support," he told the crowd.

Delta Air Lines provides the CNMI close to 130,000 seats yearly between Saipan and Japan.

"We would like to reiterate that Delta Air Lines is part of the CNMI. We do take part in your activities. We are socially responsible and we would like to continue working with you to figure out how we can further support and make CNMI a destination of choice for our travelers," said Bernier, adding that the company has also established a strong local community involvement and sales initiatives to develop tourism demand for Saipan.

With the Asia Pacific region among the fastest growing tourism markets, Delta believes that the company is on the right track.

Besides Japan, Bernier sees future growth in the Chinese and Southeast Asian markets. This means, he said, that Delta is positioned to capture this growth going forward. He said the airline has over 60 years of significant presence in the region and has over 2,300 Asia-based employees. The momentum, he said, is in Delta's favor.

$3B investment

To improve the "overall customer experience" of its travelers, Bernier disclosed that Delta is investing over $3 billion in product improvements.

These include installation of full flatbed seats in BusinessElite on all international aircraft, expected to be completed in the spring of 2014. The airline, he said, is also installing a new comfort seating for the economy class, among other new investments.

"What's the point we want to stress here? We are embarking on improving overall customer experience from start to finish because in Delta, we have a model of 'keep climbing' and continuous improvement," he said.

In terms of the airline's fiscal state, Bernier described the company's financial condition as fiscally sound, is paying down its debts, and has a positive cash flow. He also cited the strong partnership it has and continues to develop with partners around the globe.

Three years ago, Delta merged with Northwest Airlines. During this period, Bernier said the merger had some negative impact but he quickly added that Delta has returned to profitability. In fact, he said, its overall operating margin is 6.4 percent in 2011, the highest margin for airlines in the United States.

During the question-and-answer section of the meeting, Bernier was asked if the company has plans to reduce ticket costs. He said this is always part of the company's evaluation. However, he remained noncommittal, saying the airline has to ensure that its plans are aligned with its goal of continued and long-term commitment to the market.

There are only four airlines flying to the CNMI at the moment: Asiana Airlines, Delta Air Lines, Cape Air, and Sichuan Airlines.

MONETH G. DEPOSA

Delta Air Lines managing director for Asia Pacific Jeff Bernier speaks during yesterday's meeting at Pacific Islands Club where he announced the company's plan to increase the capacity this summer from 14 weekly flights to 18 weekly flights from Japan. Delta also reaffirmed its commitment to continue to fly to the CNMI and bared its investment plans.

Ulithi island to get donated books

SALUDA, South Carolina—Thanks to the efforts of volunteers in Saluda County, young adults on a remote island in the Central Pacific will have some much-needed reading material.

Kayla Haynes, interim director of the Saluda County Library, led a joint effort with the Friends of the Saluda County Library to put together a gift of several dozen fiction books for teenage and adult readers on the tiny island of Mogmog. Situated about 300 miles south of Guam, Mogmog is one of only four inhabited islands in an outlying string of Micronesian islands called Ulithi.

The island's small public elementary school has a sparsely furnished reading room that doubles as a community library. The addition of several boxes of books will be a source of tremendous excitement for a community with very limited access to new literature.

"These are books that were being pulled from circulation, so we're excited to know they'll continue to be enjoyed," Haynes explained.

The Friends of the Library is a nonprofit organization that supports Saluda County's two public libraries. Their work includes sponsoring public support of the library, promoting library facilities and services as well as providing additional money for library materials, equipment and services.

The donation will be sent to Micronesia by the Habele Outer Island Education Fund, another South Carolina based charity. "Habele" was established in 2006 by a group of former Peace Corps Volunteers who served as librarians and teachers in the Federated States of Micronesia. In addition to supporting public school and community libraries in the remote "Outer Islands" of Micronesia, the group also organizes after-school programs including traditional canoe carving and robotics competitions.

"These young adult and adult fiction books are great," said Neil Mellen, a Habele volunteer in Columbia. "Remote communities like Mogmog are starved for educational materials, and we're doing everything we can to help meet that need with limited resources. Now, the older readers on Mogmog must take an open boat across the choppy lagoon to the high school library on another island just to check out books at this reading level. The generosity of the Friends of the Salauda Library will save them the trip!" ***(PR)***

Guam Fire gets $1.1M for emergency vehicles

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The Department of the Interior's Assistant Secretary for Insular Areas, Tony Babauta, has awarded $1.1 million in grant funding to support the Guam Fire Department's mission. The funding will be used to purchase 1) a fire ladder truck, increasing GFD's capability to respond to emergencies higher than two-stories; 2) two medium-duty rescue vehicles, enhancing GFD's emergency rescue response; and 3) a single rigid hull inflatable rescue boat, increasing GFD's maritime coverage and response time.

"I am pleased to be able to respond to the Guam Fire Department's request for funding to supplement their current fleet of emergency vehicles. The additions to the fleet will enhance the rescue efforts of the department, whether responding to medical or rescue emergencies on land or ocean," said Babauta. "During a time of shrinking federal resources, I am grateful to the work of Congresswoman Bordallo in helping to preserve our programs during the budget process. Were it not for her strong voice and that of her colleagues, my office would not be in a position to be able to provide such assistance to Guam, American Samoa, the U.S. Virgin Islands or the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

In the current and past fiscal years, Babauta has approved two separate grants for Guam to purchase six ambulances. In awarding funding for vehicles, emergency or otherwise, Interior has mandated that maintenance packages accompany any proposal. ***(OIA)***

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

DRAFT EIS FOR DIVERT ACTIVITIES AND EXERCISES, GUAM AND COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

The U.S. Air Force (USAF) announces the availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for Divert Activities and Exercises, Guam and Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) for public review. The Draft EIS is available for download on the project website address listed below.

The USAF requests comments on the Draft EIS and will host open public hearings on the islands of Saipan and Tinian. The proposed action analyzed in the Draft EIS is to improve an existing airport or airports and associated infrastructure in the Mariana Islands region in support of expanding mission requirements and to achieve divert capabilities in the western Pacific. The proposed airfield and infrastructure improvements would be designed to support a combination of cargo, fighter, and tanker aircraft and associated support personnel for divert landings, periodic exercises, and humanitarian assistance and disaster relief activities. Proposed facilities would be used on an as-needed basis and would not be used as a permanent full-time beddown or installation location. Saipan International Airport and Tinian International Airport are considered alternative locations for the proposed action. In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act, the USAF has prepared a Draft EIS and is providing this documentation to the public for review.

In addition to electronic files that can be downloaded at the project website address listed below, printed copies of the Draft EIS will available for review until July 23, 2012 at:

- Guam- University of Guam Robert F. Kennedy Memorial Library; Nieves M. Flores Memorial Library; Andersen Air Force Base Library
- Saipan- Saipan Office of the Mayor; Joeten-Kiyu Public Library
- Tinian- Tinian Office of the Mayor; Tinian Public Library
- Rota- Rota Office of the Mayor; Antonio Camacho Atalig Memorial Library.

The public is encouraged to attend the Draft EIS public hearings, which will be held at the following dates, times, and locations:

1. June 25, 2012 - Saipan Multi-Purpose Center, Beach Road, Susupe Village, Saipan, 5:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.
2. June 26, 2012 - Tinian Elementary School, San Jose Village, Tinian, 5:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.

Federal agencies, government of CNMI agencies, the public, and other interested parties are encouraged to provide verbal and/or written comments to the USAF for consideration in the Final EIS. Verbal and/or written comments may be submitted at the public hearings or via postal mail. All comments must be submitted or postmarked no later than July 23, 2012.

Mail comments to:

Capt Rebecca Heyse, PACAF/PA
25 E Street, Suite G-108
Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, HI 96853
ATTN: PACAF Divert Marianas EIS

In addition, comments on the Draft EIS will be accepted via telephone voice recording system by dialing 1-855-200-6734, and via the project website at:

www.PACAFDivertMarianasEIS.com.

Underground storage tank training

The Federal Energy Policy Act enacted by Congress in 2005 mandated training for all underground storage tank system operators. There are two types of operators who must receive training: a Primary Operator (Class A/B) and an Emergency Response Operator (Class C).

By Aug. 8, 2012, all facilities with underground storage tank systems permitted through the Division of Environmental Quality must have trained primary and emergency response operators.

It is the responsibility of underground storage tank owners to designate a primary operator for each UST facility. The person designated as the primary operator should be an individual who is responsible for the day-to-day aspects of operating, maintaining, and recordkeeping, and has a general knowledge of the underground storage tank compliance requirements. Underground storage tank operators are required to obtain certification.

The certification training shall be held on Tuesday, July 17, and again on Wednesday, July 18. Participants need only attend one of two days. Seating is limited per day and underground storage tank operators must register no later than today, June 26, 2012. Registration is accepted only via email or fax by submitting a registration form and a pre-survey. These forms can be downloaded at www.deq.gov.mp.

After completing the one-day training, each participant can obtain his/her certification by passing a 20-question exam with a score of 80 percent or better. This certification shall be good for two years, unless the facility is not in compliance.

The one-day training agenda shall include, but is not limited to the following: Introduction UST Operator Certification overview, Basic UST technology, release detection, release response, spill containment, overfill prevention, corrosion protection, and required paperwork relating to the operation and maintenance of underground storage tanks.

There is also an online training course for the Class C operators. C operators are on-site employees responsible for addressing emergencies presented by a spill or release from a UST system. Duties of Class C operators include responding to spills and alarms, and contacting Class A or B (management).

For more information about the in-person training on July 17 and 18 or the Class C online training, call the DEQ at 664-8500 or 8507 or send an email to johnpaul-flores@deq.gov.mp. ***(DEQ)***

June 27 deadline for Kikkoman Cook-Off

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Community members who want to join the 2012 Kikkoman Cook-Off will have until Wednesday, June 27, to sign up for the culinary competition.

Hosted by J.C. Tenorio Enterprises, the 2012 Kikkoman Cook-Off will be held on Saturday, June 30, at the Joeten Susupe Shopping Center.

Frannie T. Demapan, Joeten marketing manager and buyer, said yesterday that a number of individuals have already signed up for the event so they have to set the registration closing date by tomorrow.

"We want to encourage potential contestants to get application forms, which are available at all Joeten stores on island and submit them at Joeten Susupe on or before June 27," she told *Saipan Tribune*.

The 2012 Kikkoman Cook-Off is open to all Kikkoman users 18 years or older who have a recipe using any Kikkoman products. Recipes can be entered in only one of two categories: appetizer and main entrée.

All entries will have to be cooked or prepared when brought to the Joeten Susupe Shopping Center where the judging will be held.

Contestants will each receive an exclusive Joeten/Kikkoman T-shirt and their recipes will be forwarded to the Kikkoman office in Japan.

Winners for each category will receive $150 worth of Joeten gift certificates for first place, $100 gift certificates for second place, and $50 gift certificates for third place.

Additionally, the winners will also receive gift packs from Marpac, Dickerson & Quinn, and Coca-Cola, according to Demapan.

For more information, visit Joeten's Facebook page or call 234-6445 Ext. 292.

POLICE DEMO
Members of a Korean brass band cover their ears as police officer Daniel Smith demonstrates how to operate the devices of a police motorcycle. Band members, along with their parents, conductor, and a principal, toured the Department of Public Safety last week. Sixty members of Hwasun Elementary School Brass Band from South Korea performed during a fundraising concert for the benefit of the Saipan Southern High School's Manta Ray Band last June 18 at the American Memorial Park.
FERDIE DE LA TORRE

'DESTINATION MARIANAS'
Guam Visitors Authority general manager Joann Camacho and GVB chair Monte Mesa paid a visit to Gov. Benigno R. Fitial to reiterate GVB's commitment to working with MVA to promote "Destination Marianas" at a meeting on June 19.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

MHS Class of '93 reunion meeting

Marianas High School Class of 1993 will be having a class reunion meeting on Thursday, June 28, 2012, 6pm at the Minatchom Atdao Pavilion. If you have any questions, you can contact Maryann Borja-Arriola at 483-2279 or email Vivian Sablan at vtsablan@gmail.com. ***(PR)***

Green Meadow enrollment ongoing

Enrolment for school year 2012-2013 is ongoing at Green Meadow School for pre-school, kindergarten and elementary (1st - 6th grade). New students accepted. Three convenient locations: Main campus - Chalan Kiya; CM6 Joeten Housing, Dandan; and Middle Road (next to PMC), Gualo Rai.

Green Meadow School (GMS, 2012 Academic Bee Challenge champions) is a Christian educational and child-care institution using ABEKA curriculum. School Year 2012-2012 starts on Aug. 13, 2012.

For more information, call 235-2185, 234-0898 or visit greenmeadowsaipan.com. Email: green_meadow07@yahoo.com. ***(PR)***

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Jun. 26, 2001

Independent monitors visit garment factories
The local garment industry is currently undergoing a comprehensive evaluation process meant to ensure apparel manufacturers adhere to US standards pertaining to workplace conditions, worker rights and business practices. Independent monitoring inspectors from Global Social Compliance, the off-shore operative of US-based PricewaterhouseCoopers, internationally recognized for its expertise at improving business excellence, were on Saipan earlier this month to check on factories' compliance with the "Standards for the Treatment of Workers and Working Conditions and Standards for Living" as set forth in the SGMA Code of Conduct.

$17M Kagman sewer system underway
An average of one million gallons of human waste is flushed into septic tanks of Kagman homes everyday, threatening contamination of groundwater in the village where water potability is considered the best on Saipan. "We know that human waste or septic systems can leak and harm our groundwater. Human and animal waste decomposes into a chemical called nitrate," said Joe Kaipat, manager of the Division of Environmental Quality's Safe Drinking Water Program. As this developed, the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation announced that it has completed the "conceptual design" of a $17 million facility—a sewage collection system and wastewater treatment plant —to be constructed in Kagman.

Jun. 26, 2002

Tebuteb asks for hearing on violations
Rep. Ray Tebuteb, one of three House lawmakers who were cited for violating local environmental laws during a trip to the Northern Islands, has asked for an administrative hearing so he could explain his side on the matter. Tebuteb made the request in a letter addressed to Fish and Wildlife Director Richard Seman. This comes soon after a similar administrative hearing that Rep. Arnold I. Palacios also asked of the agency in the wake of the citation. Palacios said he is now just awaiting the result of the hearing.

RP amends travel tax exemption
The Philippine Tourism Authority announced that Filipino permanent residents abroad are no longer required to submit copies of their returns to avail travel tax exemption privileges. According to a media statement released by the Philippine tourism agency through the Philippine Consulate General, the government's program exempting Filipinos working and residing abroad from filing Philippine income tax returns to avail travel tax exemption has been waived. Filipinos working abroad will only be required to present their original passport, certificate of residency issued by the Consulate General, and proof of permanent residency including photocopies of ID page of passport and page showing latest arrival date in the Philippines.

Jun. 26, 2003

Deets: Lawsuit is plain harassment
Saipan businesswoman Kerry Deets yesterday branded as harassment the lawsuit that was filed against her and her ex-husband, Matt, by a company that wants to evict her from her Garapan real property. Deets said the published statement of USPG Inc., controlled by businessman Frank Moniz, was "false, misleading and defamatory." The published article was about the filing of a complaint by USPG at the CNMI Superior Court Tuesday. The company wants to enforce alleged leasehold interests it acquired on the properties Deets and her ex-husband later bought through sale. The leasehold interests were to last for about 40 years more, based on the complaint penned by lawyer Mark B. Hanson.

Changing CRMO functions could threaten federal funding for CNMI
The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management has advised Gov. Juan N. Babauta that the CNMI may lose over $1 million in federal funds if a pending Senate measure that seeks to modify the local Coastal Resource Management Program is passed. NOAA told the local chief executive that the proposed changes under Senate Bill 13-37 would disassemble the current, federally-approved CNMI CRMP. NOAA Program Director Eldon Hout warned that this would most likely leave the CNMI without a federally-approved coastal management program.

Foreign corporation tax bill vetoed for the 2nd time

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial vetoed Friday a revised version of a foreign corporation tax bill that then acting governor Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos also vetoed, and they were for the same reasons of violating both the Covenant between the CNMI and the United States and the U.S. tax laws in the NMI Territorial Income Tax.

» Fitial also rejects fire safety code bill, but OKs medical records legislation

Rep. Ray Basa's (Cov-Saipan) House Bill 17-288 seeks to create a tax rate for foreign corporations earning income from outside of the CNMI. It encourages foreign persons to establish a company in the CNMI and thereby shift their income to the Commonwealth and pay a lower tax on their income from foreign operations.

Fitial also vetoed on Friday a bill that adopts the 2009 editions of the International Building Code, the International Fire Code and related construction codes because of technical issues.

But the governor signed at the same time the first House bill introduced in the House in the 17th Legislature, transferring medical records from the Clerk of Court's Office to the Health and Vital Statistics Office.

Tax bill

Fitial said HB 17-288, the foreign corporation tax bill, has an admirable goal of encouraging foreign corporations to conduct business in the CNMI. But because it violates section 601 of the Covenant and Section 861-865 of the NMTIT, the governor said he must veto the bill.

Section 601 of the Covenant establishes the mirror code version of the U.S. tax laws in the CNMI as the NMTIT.

Sections 861-865 of the NMTIT establish the rules to determine whether income is considered to be derived from the CNMI or outside the CNMI, referred to as "sourcing rules."

Fitial said the CNMI is restricted in the changes it can make in the mirror code version of the U.S. tax law that would undermine the basic structure of authority established in the Covenant.

"HB 17-288 is in conflict with the Sourcing Rules as it establishes a separate structure for determining whether income is derived from within the Commonwealth of outside the Commonwealth. Thus, HB 17-288 is in conflict with both the terms of the Covenant and the NMTIT," Fitial said in his veto message to House Speaker Eli Cabrera (R-Saipan) and Senate President Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota).

Basa, the bill's author, told reporters on Sunday he's surprised that the governor vetoed again the revised version of the bill, after it already took into consideration the Fitial administration's concerns on a similar bill that was vetoed for the same reasons that the governor is citing once again.

"We sat down with a revenue and taxation consultant, Mr. Rufino Inos, and worked with the governor's counsel, Jim Stump, on this second bill. We looked at the problems in the first bill… We thought we ironed out everything so we passed the new bill. I'm surprised it's vetoed again," Basa said in an interview at the Republican Party of the CNMI Association's kickoff rally. At the time, he said he has yet to see the governor's veto message to the Legislature.

Actions on 2 other bills

The governor also vetoed Rep. Ralph Demapan's (Cov-Saipan) HB 17-207.

"This is a needed piece of legislation that will strengthen building standards, improve fire safety, and contribute to an infrastructure that will serve the public during typhoons and other natural threats to buildings. Once some technical changes are made to HB 17-207 are made, it will be my pleasure to affix my signature to the bill," Fitial said.

The governor said there are some problems with the current bill that will create enforcement and legal concerns in the future.

"Rather than signing a bill with known problems, I am respectfully vetoing the bill so we can fix these matters now," he added.

The governor cited specific sections of HB 17-207 that have problems. For example, Section 5(a), Lines 17-21 and Page 6, Lines 1-2 are ambiguous and unclear. Further, the purpose of the entirety of subsection (a) is unclear as subsection (b) provides the same language and all the information necessary for enforcement.

Fitial said it is important to eliminate superfluous or redundant language in a statute as rules of statutory construction will accord meaning to every statutory provision. The superfluous language in subsection (a) will therefore pose difficulties with enforcement and interpretation in the future.

The governor, however, signed Rep. Ray Tebuteb's (R-Saipan) HB 17-1, requiring the transfer of medical records such as birth certificates from the Clerk of Court's Office to the Health and Vital Statistics Office.

The bill is now Public Law 17-77.

Tebuteb, in a phone interview, thanked the governor for signing the first bill introduced in the 17th House into law.

EUDL CHAMPS
Team Hit and Run is the 2012 Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws Youth Softball Tournament champions. CNMI Juvenile Justice Task Force, in partnership with the Natibu Sports Association, organized the weekend event for youths under age of 21 to promote awareness as part of the June Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws Month.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Toni Yamada of the Rocball Ninjas prepares for the 2012 Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws Volleyball tournament on Capital Hill last weekend. Rocball Ninjas went on to win the championship title.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

EMO relocates dispatch to new EOC

The Emergency Management Office, in coordination with the Office of Homeland Security, and with the contractual agreement with Motorola Guam, began relocating yesterday the existing Moto Bridge console from the EMO facility to the new EOC building on Capital Hill.

During this relocation, the EMO Dispatch Center will be on minimal monitoring capability using hand-held radio units. Completion of this project is expected to be on Saturday, June 30, 2012. During the relocation project EMO will monitor both analog and digital emergency channels. All telephone and fax numbers will remain the same during this project.

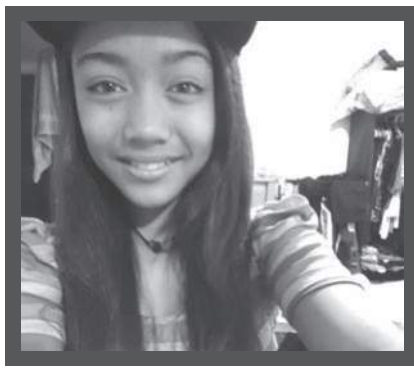
For more information or assistance call EMO at 322-9528/9. ***(EMO)***

CUC to flush fire hydrants, exercise gate valves

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. will be performing routine maintenance on fire hydrants and water gate valves in Koblerville, Afetna, San Antonio, Lower Base, Puerto Rico Sadog Tasi, and Capital Hill this week until Friday, July 7, 2012. The maintenance will involve flushing fire hydrants to clean the water main lines and the exercising of gate valves.

If you experience brackish or brown water in your faucets during this scheduled maintenance, allow the water to flow until the water turns clear.

Contact CUC Water Operations at (670) 322- 5030 or 322-5031 with any questions or concerns. ***(PR)***



BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT
Happy 12th birthday to our big baby, Leyanna Marie "Nana Girl"! We love you! Enjoy your day! Greetings come from your Mom, Dad, Willtun, Leilani, Wil-Leina and your family and friends.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

One year of free golf as hole-in-one prize

As part of its commitment to advancing higher education in the CNMI, the LaoLao Bay Golf & Resort is donating one year of free golf rounds to the lucky golfer who makes a hole-in-one at Hole No. 7 at the LaoLao's West Course in this Saturday's NMC Foundation Open Golf Tournament.

» NMC Foundation open golf tournament this Saturday

"We understand how much NMC contributes to the community by providing opportunities for higher education and professional development," said LaoLao Bay Golf & Resort senior vice president/general manager Tetsuya Matsunaga. "We are glad to be a part of the NMC Foundation's efforts to support the CNMI's only U.S.-accredited institution of higher learning."

The NMC Foundation is composed of community volunteers committed to improving and enhancing higher education opportunities for people in the CNMI. The annual tournament is the Foundation's signature event.

"With this being our tenth tournament, we are extremely grateful for LaoLao Bay Golf & Resort's continued support and generosity over the years," said NMC Foundation president Ivan Quichocho.

The 10th Annual NMC Foundation Open golf tournament will be held at the LaoLao Bay Golf & Resort (West Course) with a shotgun start at 7am and will follow a medal play format. There will be six separate flight categories: Championship, A, B, C, Seniors, and Ladies.

Registration forms for the golf tournament can be downloaded from www.nmcnet.edu, or picked up at LaoLao Bay Golf & Resort, Marianas Country Club, Saipan Country Club, Dan Dan Golf Range, Kingfisher Golf Links, and All Star Sporting Goods.

The entrance fee is $95 per player. Payments for the entrance fee can be made at LaoLao Bay Golf & Resort, Triple J Motors, and the NMC Cashier.

Tournament prizes for first place for each of the six flights include cash and roundtrip tickets to various destinations in the Pacific on United Airlines. Other hole-in-one prizes include a 2012 Hyundai Elantra donated by Triple J Motors, and a roundtrip ticket on United Airlines.

For more information on how to donate to the NMC Foundation or to register to play, log on to www.nmcnet.edu or call 234-5498 ext. 1050/1051. ***(NMC)***

Buy Local campaign at Chamorro Village launches

From June 22 to July 18, Guam residents will be encouraged to support participating *Buy Local Guam* Businesses and save their receipts. On July 18, the community will be invited to the Chamorro Village *Buy Local Night* for local food, shopping, and entertainment. They will have an opportunity to turn in their saved receipts and claim prizes from local businesses that support the *Buy Local* movement.

The campaign's objective is to promote thinking and buying local by supporting the Guam Product Seal program participants, Chamorro Village tenants and vendors, and *BuyLocalGuam* businesses.

This campaign is part of an initiative funded by the U.S. Department of Interior's Office of Insular Affairs through the UOG Pacific Center for Economic Initiatives, in partnership with GEDA, Guam Chamber of Commerce, and supported by Guam SBDC, Dept. of Chamorro Affairs, and UOG Junior Accountants Society. ***(PR)***

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
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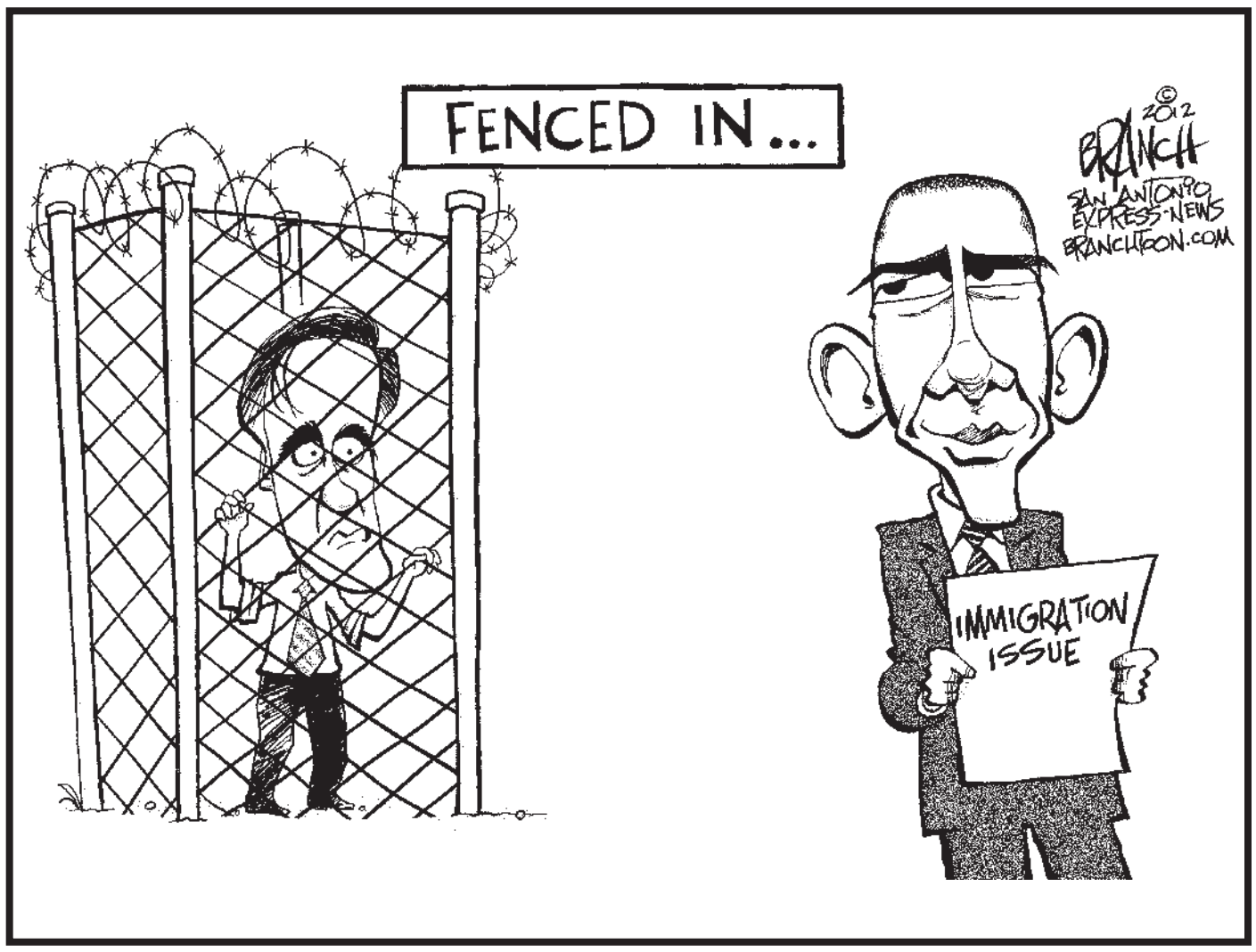


ESGR celebrates 40 years of service to our military

By DAVID J. SABLAN
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

When the Department of Defense began to anticipate the end of the Vietnam War and with it the draft, it established an agency to oversee a relationship that would be critical to our nation's ability to maintain an all-volunteer military. For the past 40 years, that agency—the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve—has labored to develop and promote a culture in which all American employers support and value the military service of their employees in the National Guard and Reserve. The last decade of continuous combat and historic natural disasters has tested our reliance on the reserve components of our military members and their employers, revealing both groups' willingness to make extraordinary sacrifices for the good of our country.

In 1972, one of the first programs launched by ESGR was the Statement of Support, a pledge employers sign affirming they will follow legal obligations to military employees and provide additional support when needed. The Statement of Support remains a symbol of strong commitment when signed by present-day employers, providing reassurance to military employees. Guard and Reserve members' anxiety over military service and deployments lessens, knowing employers stand behind them and are committed to protecting their jobs even during the increased deployments of the last decade.

Another vital component of ESGR's mission, the ombudsmen program, has assisted Guard and Reserve Service members and employers since 1975. Throughout the United States, the CNMI, Guam, and the other territories, trained ombudsmen provide free information and neutral mediation to help resolve workplace issues. The current federal law, the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994, provides employment rights and responsibilities for Guard and Reserve Service members so they are not penalized professionally for their service to our country. Yet, service members can suffer if their employers lack awareness of these rights and responsibilities. In some cases, Guardsmen and Reservists return from deployment to a combat zone, only to find their time away cost them a pay raise, promotion, or job. Today, the Guam-CNMI State Committee of ESGR has a cadre of 20 volunteers, with 2 ombudsmen, to assist Guardsmen, Reservists and employers in the CNMI and Guam.

Most employers willingly support their military employees, and in many cases go above and beyond their legal responsibilities. In response, ESGR developed a robust awards program to recognize these employers. Our nation could not meet its current national security demands without the Guard and Reserve, which make up a force of about 1.3 million service members or about 48 percent of our entire military might, who in turn could not sustain their service without those who employ them. Employers in the CNMI and Guam are doing their part. Just this past March, our ESGR state committee held its 3rd annual awards recognition gala event to honor those very employers in the CNMI who were nominated by their service member employees, for all the good things they did and continue to do to help them and their families cope with constant military deployments, long training schedules and other military duties they must perform away from work and many times, away from home.

In spite of strong employer support, too many Guard and Reserve members are still slipping through the cracks, falling into unemployment. As recently as 2011, the unemployment rate for the most junior members of the Guard and Reserve rose to 23 percent; imagine how these young heroes struggle when nearly a quarter of them are out of work. We owe them better. Consider-

See ESGR on Next Page

The nerve

By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime R. Vergara (jrvergarajr2031@aol.com) is a former PSS teacher and is currently writing from the campus of Shenyang Aerospace University in China.

Organophosphates. They are ingredients in our DNA and RNA. They are also the basis of many insecticides, herbicides, and nerve gases.

We do not intend to alarm. Scientists and regulators are, however, raising a new concern. Organophosphates block an enzyme that is critical to nerve function in laboratory experiments affecting bugs and people. Even at low level, organophosphates affect the brain development of fetuses and young children.

The EPA banned its residential use in 2001 but they are still agriculturally sprayed on fruits and vegetables. They are also used to control pests like mosquitoes in public places. We absorb them through the skin and lungs, or by eating them on food.

China banning pleasant looking apples wrapped in plastic laced with insecticide prior to maturation is making headlines. The practice of banning suspect produce is growing more frequent in the U.S., too.

I have two neurologically challenged children diagnosed. I join many parents in identifying chemical additives to our metabolic process as a contributing factor, if not a direct cause. The use of mercury as preservative in children's medicine is claimed by many parents to be such. The railroading of legislation to protect pharmaceutical from any financial liability for any possible medical connection makes any claim beyond financial gain suspect.

The chemical inducing of mango and banana flowering, as well as the control of their uniform ripening (through carbides) to make them have a more attractive appearance and longer shelf life, sacrifices health and nutrition in the service of mighty profit. Saipan eats cardboard tasting bananas when a variety of plants grow naturally in its plains and foothills.

(The mother of my two autistic children was a Peace Corp Volunteer in Davao, and I was a natural resource consultant for watershed development in the Visayan Islands, where we were literally exposed to the rampant use of chemicals in the mango and banana industries, so we might be forgiven our reaction to chemical intrusion into body metabolism.)

We are all familiar with our military use in Vietnam of Agent Orange for the herbicidal war in the '60s. Half a million people were killed or maimed and another half a million were born with birth defects. Monsanto and Dow Chemical were primary producers.

The impacting photo of the Vietnamese girl screaming in pain over the effect of napalm helped turn the popular tide against the U.S.' continuing military adventure in Vietnam. "Napalm" is a gelling agent combining the names of naphthenic and palmitic acids. The name is now used as a generic term for several flammable liquids used in warfare.

Realization that the pesticides/insecticides we use in the U.S. Prairies are seeping into the water table and polluting our rivers and lakes feed into the ecological belligerence of fellow Americans. Having resided in Saskatchewan, Canada, and plied the route toward Chicago, we are only too familiar with the aftermath of the 1962 Rachel Carson *Silent Spring* book that resulted in the banning of the pesticide DDT from commercial use.

The criminal behavior of Union Carbide in Bhopal, India when lethal gas leaked in the middle of the night is lamentable.

The accidents at Chernobyl, Three-Mile Island, and Fukushima are understandable. We inadequately mitigate their happening. Fukushima-originating debris in the shores of Washington State, and radiation detected over Michigan-Indiana that sent the Minot Air Force Base into nuclear alert, are examples of how human-induced chemical reactions are no longer just a local matter.

Our intent is not to raise a knee-jerk alarm. After all, a majority of us do not participate in the policy-making processes that determine our commercial and financial affairs. We leave those to corporations that have gone international in their boards and global in their operations. It is our unquestioning subservience to their profit ethos that is within our management and control, for the consumer still has power of the purse in the purchase of packaged products.

Human awareness is within our purview. We can be conscious of our body sense, of the data that comes through our eyes, ears, nasal cavity, digestive tract, and tactile system, and our response when their functioning goes awry. That we grab for the bottle in the medicine cabinet in the first instance of ache reflects our conditioning. Pharmacological responses to pain is, at best, temporary. At the onset, fresh air and clean water, along with adequate nutrients and sleep, are better remedies to physiological disorders.

Our feelings (loci: the neural net of the heart) guide our survival instinct as a preference. Our cognitive faculties (loci: the electromagnetic field of the brain) allow use of social language and numbers that aid in our communication. But it is finally what we do as individuals, in our choices of what to see, hear, smell, taste, and touch, that determines the difference. When we allow corporations to dictate the values that guide our senses, we put ourselves at the butt end of commercial gain.

When we sense physiological danger, and corporations with our government collude to hide the truth from us, or worse, cover up the unpleasantness, we can only collectively exclaim: "The nerve!"

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

'Has continuously resided in the United States': Deferred action and the CNMI

IMMIGRATION FORUM

By MAYA KARA and BRUCE MAILMAN
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Maya Kara is a native of Hungary and comes to the practice of law by way of her interest in Asian history. Bruce Mailman is a native of Bakersfield, California and was a private investigator in California prior to becoming a lawyer. Both have lived and practiced law in the CNMI for over 20 years, Maya in government service and Bruce in private practice. They are married and are partners in the law firm of Mailman & Kara, LLC in Garapan, Saipan.

"All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside."—*US Constitution, Amendment 14, Section 1*

"[T]he following provisions of the constitution of the United States will be applicable within the Northern Mariana Islands as if the Northern Mariana Islands were one of the several States: . . . Amendment 14, Section 1."—*Covenant to Establish a Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in Political Union with the United States of America, Section 501(a)*

"[H]ow could the CNMI be treated as a State without being treated as being in the United States? No State governed by the Constitution of the United States exists in a realm outside the realm comprehended by the United States." —*Sabangan v. Powell (9th Circuit, 2004)*

DHS Secretary Janet Napolitano's June 15, 2012, memorandum, "Exercising Prosecutorial Discretion with Respect to Individuals who Came to the United States as Children," formalized a policy of "deferred action" with regard to enforcement of the immigration laws against many of the people who would have benefitted from the DREAM Act, which has stalled in Congress again and again. The Executive Branch has acted where the Legislative Branch has been unwilling, or unable, to act.

Let us say at the outset of this article that we applaud the new policy. It is grounded in the same concepts of individual and group fairness and justice that welcomed Bruce's grandparents to the United States when they fled unbearable conditions in Russia, the Ukraine, and Poland, and that welcomed Maya as a refugee child after the collapse of the Hungarian Revolution. The new policy is the right thing to do, and is way overdue.

The question immediately arose whether the deferred action policy benefits any young people in the CNMI, with no clear consensus. Our initial, reluctant analysis was that few people would meet the residential requirement (which we discuss below). Before the federal takeover of CNMI immigration, less than three years ago, the only aliens residing in the CNMI who were considered to be "inside" the U.S. for immigration purposes were the immediate relatives of U.S. citizens. For the most part, those immediate relatives were not undocumented when they arrived in the CNMI, and were (or became) qualified for green cards. Bruce was interviewed, and said so.

Other attorneys disagreed. So we decided to take another look. In our practice, we try to advise clients as to what the law *is*, not what it should be, or what it might become. Still, there are some intriguing possibilities.

The deferred action requirements

Keep in mind that deferred action is a form of prosecutorial discretion, a kind of administrative grace. We need to start with the requirements for deferred action, exactly as stated in the Napolitano memo, with our emphasis on the critical provisions:

- came to the United States under the age of 16;
- has continuously resided in the United States for at least five years preceding the date of this memorandum and is present in the United Sates on the date of this memorandum;
- is currently in school, has graduated from high school, has obtained a general education development certificate, or is an honorably discharged veteran of the Coast Guard or Armed Forces of the United States:
- has not been convicted of a felony offense, a significant misdemeanor office, multiple misdemeanor offenses, or otherwise poses a threat to national security or public safety; and
- is not above the age of 30.

The full text of Secretary Napolitano's deferred action memo is available on the dhs.gov website, at http://tinyurl.com/7f3sblp. There is a very good USCIS fact sheet at http://tinyurl.com/7tr2g58.

What do 'To the United States' and 'In the United States' mean?

If you substitute "CNMI" for "United States" in the first two deferred action criteria, then it is clear that the new policy would benefit a good many young people who may have no other path to a valid immigration status. But can we do that?

A. When was a CNMI resident "in the United States" under the Covenant?

Those of us who practiced immigration law in the CNMI prior to Nov. 28, 2009, had to learn when, and for what purposes, a CNMI person or company could be considered to be "inside" the U.S., despite the fact that the federal courts considered the CNMI to be a U.S. territory. Covenant Section 506, for example, provided that aliens who lived in the CNMI and were the immediate relatives of U.S. citizens also living here (or only absent temporarily, such as members of the armed forces or students) would be considered to be "inside" the U.S. for immigration purposes. That meant that quite a few aliens qualified for, and obtained U.S. permanent residence. By contrast, CNMI businesses were considered "foreign," and we assisted managers and executives transferred to Guam businesses (which were considered "U.S." businesses) to obtain green cards on the basis of transfer from a foreign company to a related U.S. company. Permanent residents who lived in the CNMI but were not the immediate relatives of U.S. citizens also living here were in danger of revocation of their green cards; in fact, the Consolidated Natural Resources Act contains a special provision curing any such overstays by permanent residents.

Following these rules, the only CNMI residents who could be considered "inside" the U.S. prior to Nov. 28, 2009, were U.S. citizens and their immediate relatives. If this is the only analysis, then of the young people otherwise qualified for deferred action relief, only the immediate relatives of U.S. citizens can argue plausibly that they "came to the United States" before turning 16 and—because Nov. 28, 2009, is less than three years ago—that they have "resided continuously in the United States" for at least five years preceding June 15, 2012, the date of the Napolitano memo.

B. An unconventional analysis: The 14th Amendment and the Sabangan case

Is the conventional, Covenant-based "inside-outside" analysis the only possibility? Maybe not. As we noted in the quotes at the beginning of this article, Covenant Section 501(a) imports the Fourteenth Amendment, Section 1 of the U.S. Constitution into the governing law of the CNMI, "as if the Northern Mariana Islands were one of the several States." In Sabangan v. Powell (2004), the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals held that because the Covenant imported the Fourteen Amendment, Section 1, all children born in the CNMI beginning 11am on Jan. 9, 1978, were U.S. citizens by birth.

Sabangan was about citizenship by birth in the CNMI, not residence, removal or deferred action. But it is interesting to note that the Sabangan court concluded—almost, it seems, assumed—that because Section 1 of the Fourteen Amendment applied to the CNMI as if the CNMI were itself a State, the Sabangan plaintiffs were "born in the United States" and therefore U.S. citizens. As quoted above, the court asked, "[H]ow could the CNMI be treated as a State without being treated as being in the United States? No State governed by the Constitution of the United States exists in a realm outside the realm comprehended by the United States."

By the same token, we can ask, "why can the CNMI be treated as a State for purposes of birth in the United States, and not for purposes of determining residence in the United States?"

You can read the full text of Sabangan at http://tinyurl.com/82plkd5; it's less than three pages, in double column format.

The Napolitano memo states its rationale in stirring language:

Our Nation's immigration laws must be enforced in a strong and sensible manner. They are not designed to be blindly enforced without consideration given to the individual circumstances of each case. Nor are they designed to remove productive young people to countries where they may not have lived or even speak the language. Indeed, many of these young people have already contributed to our country in significant ways. Prosecutorial discretion, which is used in so many other areas, is especially justified here.

We couldn't say it better.

The information contained in this column is intended as general information only, and not as individual legal advice. Readers should obtain professional legal advice before taking action with respect to their individual situations. Readers may submit questions regarding federalization or immigration issues to the authors by email to lexmarianas@pticom.com. Readers may also e-mail written questions through the Saipan Tribune *at editor@saipantribune.com.*

ESGR

From Page 10

ing these men and women are dedicated leaders who perform under the most strenuous of circumstances, we also owe it to ourselves to keep them in the civilian workforce.

In response, late last year ESGR partnered with the Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program to support their employment program, Hero 2 Hired (H2H). H2H helps match Guardsmen and Reservists looking for a job with employers committed to hiring a service member via the www.H2H.jobs platform. While H2H is open to all military members, it serves as the Department of Defense's primary program dedicated to addressing the unique employment needs of members of the Guard and Reserve, providing free services to service members and employers.

I encourage every employer to examine their employment policies, consider how they are supporting their military employees, and look for ways to hire and support Guard and Reserve members. The Guam-CNMI State Committee of ESGR stands ready to assist our employers and service members in this endeavor. As our nation recognized four decades ago, a strong all-volunteer military will forever rely on our employers' support. Happy 40th birthday, ESGR; may you continue to serve our nation and our community in the CNMI and Guam!

David J. Sablan is the state chair of the Guam-CNMI State Committee for the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve, U.S. Department of Defense.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dream on

A few months ago it was proposed that the CNMI should sell certain public lands, such as golf courses, to non-Northern Marianas descent investors. The price for Saipan properties would not be less than $1,000 per square meter. At the time, another writer pointed out that this would place the value of the Laulau Bay golf course at over $1 billion. Last week Oracle founder and CEO Larry Ellison purchased, fee simple, virtually the entire Hawaiian island of Lanai. Lanai is a pristine island three times the size of Saipan. Selling price? Approximately one half billion dollars, or less than one dollar per square meter. Included are two existing resorts. One thousand dollars per square meter for Saipan golf courses? Dream on, people.

Ron Fusco
Capital Hill

My frustration

On June 22, 2012, Attorney General Ed Buckingham appeared in the evening newscast and made a statement to the media by saying retirees' pension might be reduce. As a retiree, I would like to ask Mr. Buckingham what would he feel if the same situation happens to him. Imagine the impact or suffering and anxiety to all the retirees and their families. In my own words, the court system should impose jail sentences to all those persons responsible for the mess at the Retirement Fund. If the government fail to pay its debts and refuse to follow the court order then those who are responsible are in contempt of court. In the court system, it is said it is impossible because government is not a person but, believe me, those who created the mess are people. For example in a court trial, the plaintiff lawyer says the gun that killed John Doe is mine, but my attorney argues that I am not the one who pulled the trigger. So in this situation, the government is the gun and the one who pulled the trigger is the one who is responsible. I truly believe that incarcerating this person responsible would satisfy all the retirees and, believe me, I would be one of the first to shout out loud and jump for joy. I also truly believe in my instinct that someone had planned this retirement situation all alone.

Ray Agulto
Kannat Tabla, Saipan

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds around 10 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds around 10 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲88° ▼78°	▲88 ° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°

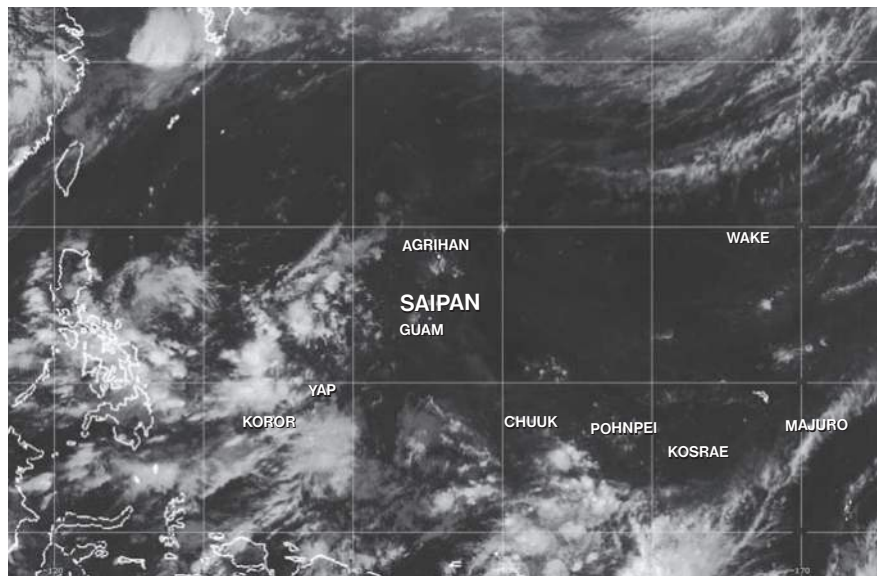
Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Sunny	▲88	▼79
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲85	▼75
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲91	▼77
Chuuk	Showers	▲86	▼77
Pohnpei	Showers	▲87	▼75
Kosrae	Showers	▲87	▼75
Majuro	Showers	▲86	▼80

Around The Globe

Auckland	Rain	▲59	▼51
Beijing	Thundershowers	▲85	▼65
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲88	▼82
Honolulu	Showers	▲83	▼74
London	Showers	▲70	▼63
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲76	▼58
Manila	Thundershowers	▲88	▼80
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	▲54	▼35
Miami	Thundershowers	▲86	▼79
New York	Thundershowers	▲74	▼58
Osaka	Thundershowers	▲79	▼67
Paris	Showers	▲77	▼62
Pusan	Windy	▲75	▼69
Rome	Sunny	▲89	▼71
Salem	Showers	▲69	▼50
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲60	▼50
Seoul	Mostly Cloudy	▲86	▼65
Tokyo	Mostly Sunny	▲74	▼60
Washington, DC	Thundershowers	▲85	▼62

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, MONDAY, JUNE 25, 2012
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A monsoon trough extends southeastward across 15N130E through a weak circulation northwest of Yap at 12N137E then continues across Chuuk state to end just south of Pohnpei at 6N158E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are west of the Mariana Islands within 200 miles of a line from 14N137E to 18N141E. Several areas of scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms across Yap state and Palau are between 3N and 13N from 130E to 141E and near the equator south of Chuuk and Pohnpei or south of a line from 3N147E 2N158E. A low pressure system is far north of Wake Island with a cold front curving southwestward across 25N177E to 14N168E to end at 13N160E. Cloudiness and patchy rain northeast of Wake are north of 20N along the front and eastward across the date line.

Tides

Saipan Harbor

1:21 AM	Today	High Tide:	2.0 Feet
7:50 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.8 Feet
12:50 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.5 Feet
7:16 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.3 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	5:49 AM	6:51 PM
Wednesday	5:49 AM	6:51 PM
Thursday	5:50 AM	6:51 PM
Friday	5:50 AM	6:51 PM
Saturday	5:50 AM	6:51 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	11:19 AM	11:37 PM
Wednesday	12:14 PM	
Thursday	1:10 PM	12:21 AM
Friday	2:10 PM	1:08 AM
Saturday	3:12 PM	1:59 AM

Note: Blank spaces indicate that a rising or a setting did not occur during that 24-hour interval.

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

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- Fax: (670) 235-3740
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- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JUNE 13, 2012

DEPARTURES

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)			
UA5062	2:40am	3:10am	1, 3, 5
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)			
UA5070	4:35am	5:25am	2, 4, 6, 7
UA5062	4:50am	5:40am	1, 3, 5 via ROP
UA5068	8:40am	9:30am	Daily
UA5074	11:30pm	12:20pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5076	3:10pm	4:00pm	Daily
UA5078	6:50pm	7:40pm	Daily
UA5072	9:55pm	10:45pm	Daily
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)			
DL287	6:05am	8:45am	Daily
DL297	4:35pm	7:20pm	Daily
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)			
OZ606	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ606	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ604	3:30pm	6:55pm	Daily
SAIPAN-GUANZHOU (CAN)			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)			
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)			
OZ606/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
OZ606/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5070/191	4:35am	9:55am	3, 6 via GUM
DL287/173	6:05am	10:00pm	Daily via NRT
UA5076/183	3:10pm	8:45pm	Daily via GUM
UA5076/193	3:10pm	10:25pm	2, 5 via GUM-Palau
OZ604/703	3:30pm	10:45pm	Daily via ICN
UA5072/PR111	9:55pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)			
OZ606/721	2:20am	11:50pm	1 via ICN
OZ606/721	2:50am	11:50pm	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5076/147	3:10pm	9:45pm	1, 5 via GUM
OZ604/723	3:30pm	10:40pm	Daily via ICN

ARRIVALS

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)			
UA5062	3:40am	5:40am	1, 3, 5
GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA5062	2:40am	4:15am	1, 3, 5
UA 5069	2:45am	3:35am	2, 4, 6, 7
UA5071	7:10am	8:00am	Daily
UA5073	10:05am	10:55am	Daily
UA5075	1:45pm	2:35pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5077	5:25pm	6:15pm	Daily
UA5079	8:35pm	9:25pm	Daily
NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL298	10:25am	3:00pm	Daily
DL288	8:15pm	12:50am+1	Daily
SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
OZ603	8:50am	2:20pm	Daily
OZ605	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ605	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
GUANZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
DL172/288	7:50am	12:50am+1	Daily via NRT
UA190/5077	10:55am	6:15pm	3, 6 via GUM
UA190/5079	10:55am	9:25pm	3, 6 via GUM
OZ702/605	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/605	12:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/UA5071	10:10pm	8:00am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
UA192/5071	9:45pm	8:00am+1	2, 5 via GUM-Palau
UA184/5071	10:55pm	8:00am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/5071	11:25pm	8:00am+1	2, 5 via GUM
OZ704/603	11:45pm	2:20pm+1	Daily via ICN
HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
OZ724/603	12:30am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN
OZ722/605	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ722/605	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
UA180/5071	10:35pm	8:00am+1	1, 5 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam–Rota			
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily
Rota–Saipan			
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily
Guam–Rota			
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily
Rota–Saipan	17:50	18:20	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily
Rota–Guam	10:20	10:45	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily
Rota–Guam			
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily
Saipan–Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Tinian–Saipan			
FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily

Business

Court keeps upcoming health care decision secret

WASHINGTON (AP)—It's the biggest secret in a city known for not keeping them.

The nine Supreme Court justices and more than three dozen other people have kept quiet for more than two months about how the high court is going to rule on the constitutionality of President Barack Obama's health care overhaul.

This is information that could move markets, turn economies and greatly affect this fall's national elections, including the presidential contest between Obama and Republican challenger Mitt Romney. But unlike the Congress and the executive branch, which seem to leak information willy-nilly, the Supreme Court, from the chief justice down to the lowliest clerk, appears to truly value silence when it comes to upcoming court opinions, big and small.

No one talks, and that's the way they like it.

Contrast this with the rest of the government, which couldn't keep secret President Barack Obama's direct role in supervising an unprecedented U.S. cyberattack on Iran's nuclear facilities or the existence of a double agent inside al-Qaida's Yemen branch who tipped the U.S. to a new design for a bomb to put on a jetliner.

As Republicans air their suspicion that the leaks might be deliberate to enhance the Obama administration's stature, Attorney General Eric Holder has appointed two U.S. attorneys to investigate those two disclosures and probably additional recent national security leaks. Because far more people, of necessity, know about such secret national security operations, those investigators must examine hundreds, even thousands, of federal workers who might have known at least a chunk of the guarded information.

AP

This June 20, 2012, file photo shows the U.S. Supreme Court in Washington. It's the biggest secret in a city known for not keeping them: the nine Supreme Court justices and more than three dozen other people have kept quiet for more than two months about how the high court is going to rule on the constitutionality of President Barack Obama's health care overhaul.

The Supreme Court is expected to rule on the law in the upcoming week or so. Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, speaking to a lawyers' convention June 15, noted a steady stream of "rumors and fifth-hand accounts" in the media about what the high court was likely to do.

"My favorite among the press pieces wisely observed: `At the Supreme Court ... those who know don't talk, and those who talk don't know,'" she said.

The justices, of course, know, having officially voted on the results the same week they heard arguments. But they are not the only ones in the loop: Each of the nine justices has four clerks who know not only how their justice voted but also how the other justices stand because these clerks help research and craft the majority opinions and dissents that are circulated for justices to sign if they agree.

In addition these 45 people surely in the know, there are an assorted number of secretaries, aides, security guards, janitors, support staff and family members keenly attuned to the inner workings of the Supreme Court's upper floors where the justices keep their chambers. At the last moment possible, printers who prepare the paper opinions to be handed out will know.

If any of these people also know anything about how the case is going to come out, they're not talking.

Unlike the president, who needs to be re-elected every four years and needs positive publicity to help, the justices have lifetime appointments and don't need favorable publicity to keep their jobs. Unlike the other constitutional branches, the justices rarely appear on television and don't even allow cameras inside their main workplace, the Supreme Court.

But that silence trickles down even beyond the justices.

Those 36 clerks, who have inside knowledge of the court's deliberations, are just as mum as their bosses despite growing up in the Internet age of bloggers, camera-phones, social media and instantly free-flowing information.

Clerks are warned from day one not to reveal anything about their work, said lawyer Stephen Miller, who clerked for Justice Antonin Scalia.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Greek PM cannot attend EU summit due to surgery

ATHENS, Greece (AP)—Greece's new prime minister will not be well enough to travel to a critical EU summit in Brussels after undergoing an eye operation, the government said Sunday. Antonis Samaras, 61, underwent surgery for a detached retina for nearly four hours Saturday, just three days after being sworn in at the head of a three-party coalition government formed after two inconclusive general elections. The doctor treating the prime minister, Panagiotis Theodosiadis, has ruled out him being able to travel to Brussels for the June 28-29 European Union summit, government spokesman Simos Kedikoglou said.

Galaxy S III sales to hit 10 million next month

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—Samsung Electronics Co. expects worldwide sales of the latest Galaxy smartphone to surpass 10 million in July. Samsung's mobile business president Shin Jong-kyun said on Monday that the Galaxy S III will reach the milestone two months after its launch. The estimate reflects robust demands from mobile operators. Unlike Apple Inc., Samsung does not disclose sales figures to consumers. The Korean company says the S III will be released by nearly 300 mobile carriers around the world by the end of July. Samsung overtook Nokia as the world's biggest mobile-phone maker in 2011 and competes with Apple for the top smartphone maker position. It aims to double its smartphone sales this year to nearly 200 million phones.

Lockheed, machinists reach tentative agreement

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP)—After more than two months on strike, Lockheed Martin machinists are expected to vote this week on a new labor contract after a tentative deal was reached with the company. Lockheed officials announced late Saturday that after four days of negotiations, the aerospace company reached a tentative agreement with the union that represents 3,600 striking employees. No terms were disclosed. "Lockheed Martin's revised offer will be unanimously recommended for acceptance by the union bargaining committee to the membership at the ratification vote early next week," Greg Karol, company vice president of labor relations, said in a statement. "We look forward to having them back on the job, building the world's best fighters."

Central bank group: Crisis fixes still needed

FRANKFURT, Germany (AP)—Governments, banks and households struggling with too much debt are dragging down the world's economy and more needs to be done to make the banking system safer, a global organization of central banks warned Sunday.

The Bank for International Settlements said in its annual report that the world economy remains out of balance, with advanced economies struggling with debt and emerging economies growing strongly but facing risks of their own version of boom and bust.

The BIS—an intergovernmental organization of central banks based in Basel, Switzerland - said it's key for governments to make banks take responsibility for their losses and force them to rebuild their finances. Meanwhile, the threat from risky bank behavior is growing again.

"The world is now five years on from the outbreak of the financial crisis, yet the global economy is still unbalanced and seemingly becoming more so as interacting weaknesses continue to amplify each other," the BIS said in its 82nd annual report.

"The goals of balanced growth, balanced economic policies and a safe financial system still elude us."

The financial crisis that began in 2007 with losses suffered by investment funds and banks on mortgage-backed securities in the United States led to a full-blown crisis and global recession after U.S. investment bank Lehman Brothers went bankrupt in 2008. Stock markets have plunged and then recovered, governments have put billions into rescuing banks to avoid a worse collapse, and central banks have slashed interest rates and in some cases expanded the supply of money to bolster their economies.

This has left an uneven and fragile recovery, with high unemployment and increased levels of government debt afflicting developed economies. Meanwhile, the 17-countries that use the euro have sunk into a crisis over excessive government debt.

The aftermath, says the BIS, is that governments, banks, and consumers are all trying to cut back on debt at the same time, magnifying each other's problem as they do so.

Stephen Cecchetti, the head of the BIS's monetary and economic department, said central banks should not be expected to carry the entire load of supporting growth and debt reduction. "In the middle of all this we find the overburdened central banks, pushed to use what power they have to contain the damage. But there are very clear limits to what central banks can do. "

Hedge fund manager to pay $405M to Madoff victims

ALBANY, N.Y. (AP)—A settlement announced Sunday will bring $405 million to victims of Bernard Madoff's historic investment scam, the state attorney general said.

The clients of hedge fund manager J. Ezra Merkin will receive $405 million, and New York state will get $5 million to cover the cost of the settlement worked out by Attorney General Eric Schneiderman. The victims include New York Law School, Bard College, Harlem Children's Zone, Homes for the Homeless and the Metropolitan Council on Jewish Poverty. Schneiderman called the agreement "a victory for justice and accountability."

"Many New Yorkers entrusted their investments to Mr. Merkin, who then steered the money to Madoff while receiving millions of dollars in management and incentive fees," Schneiderman said. "By holding Mr. Merkin accountable, this settlement will help bring justice for the people and institutions that lost millions of dollars."

Merkin's attorney, Andrew J. Levander, didn't immediately respond to a request for comment Sunday.

Merkin had managed investments for hundreds of investors in four funds: Ariel Fund Ltd., Gabriel Capital L.P., Ascot Fund Ltd. and Ascot Partners L.P. Schneiderman said many of the investors are New York residents and charitable organizations. Many of them requested not to be identified.

Most investors will get more than 40 percent of their losses, but only up to $5 million. Those who lost more could see additional payments, depending on the number of investors who seek reimbursement. Investors will see the terms of the settlement in the next few days, the attorney general's office said.

Merkin used his social and charitable contacts and his reputation as a money manager over two decades to raise more than $4 billion from investors, many of them charitable groups. Schneiderman said Merkin concealed Madoff's role through misleading documents and quarterly reports.

Nation

Toll from Colorado wildfire raised to 248 homes

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. (AP)—The total number of homes destroyed by a two-week old wildfire in northern Colorado was raised to 248 on Sunday as residents of a subdivision near Fort Collins learned that 57 more homes in their neighborhood had been lost, authorities said.

Fire officials had previously said that 191 homes had burned, the most in state history. The High Park Fire is the second-largest wildfire and among the most expensive in Colorado's history. It has scorched more than 130 square miles and was just 45 percent contained on Sunday, The Denver Post reported.

AP

In this Saturday, June 23, 2012 photo provided by Darrell Spangler, a firefighter works the scene of a home being consumed by flames in Estes Park, Colo.

With a total of eight fires burning, Colorado is having its worst wildfire season in a decade.

A fire near Colorado Springs erupted Saturday and grew out of control to more than 3 square miles early Sunday, prompting the evacuation of more than 11,000 residents and an unknown number of tourists. Authorities said Sunday that they were allowing about 5,000 of those residents to return.

Also on Saturday, a blaze destroyed structures near the mountain community of Estes Park, where many visitors stay while visiting Rocky Mountain National Park. The Larimer County Sheriff's Office said Sunday that 22 homes and 2 outbuildings had been burned.

"We're used to flooding and tornadoes, nothing like this," said Amanda Rice, who recently moved to the area from Rock Falls, Ill. Rice, her husband, four children and dog left a Manitou Springs hotel late Saturday.

Rice, scared when she saw flames, took her family to the evacuation center before she was told to go.

"It was just this God-awful orange glow. It was surreal. It honestly looked like hell was opening up," Rice said Sunday.

With Colorado midway through its worst wildfire season in a decade, travelers have seen some of their favorite sites closed to the public, obscured by smoke and haze. Some travelers were awoken with evacuation orders.

Plumes of gray and white smoke poured from the mountains Sunday, obscuring at times Pikes Peak, the most-summited high-elevation mountain in the nation and inspiration for the song "America The Beautiful." Winds were pushing smoke away from Colorado Springs, but residents and tourists watched nervously as haze wrapped around the peak.

Families planning whitewater rafting trips or visits to the stunning red-rock formations in Garden of the Gods park in Colorado Springs were instead spending their vacations passing out bottled water and setting up cots in evacuee centers.

They included Mark Stein of Morristown, N.J., whose family arrived after midnight Sunday at their Manitou Springs hotel for a week of whitewater rafting and sightseeing.

"We were sleeping for 15 minutes when they started knocking on the door—a day from hell," Stein said of the day of travel. With his wife and two sons, Stein spent the first night of his vacation setting up cots for more than 200 evacuees who slept at the school.

Poll: 1-in-4 uncommitted now in White House race

WASHINGTON (AP)—They shrug at President Barack Obama and Republican challenger Mitt Romney. They're in no hurry to decide which one to support in the White House race. And they'll have a big say in determining who wins the White House.

One-quarter of U.S. voters are persuadable, according to an Associated Press-GfK poll, and both Obama and Romney will spend the next four months trying to convince these fickle, hard-to-reach individuals that only he has what it takes to fix an ailing nation.

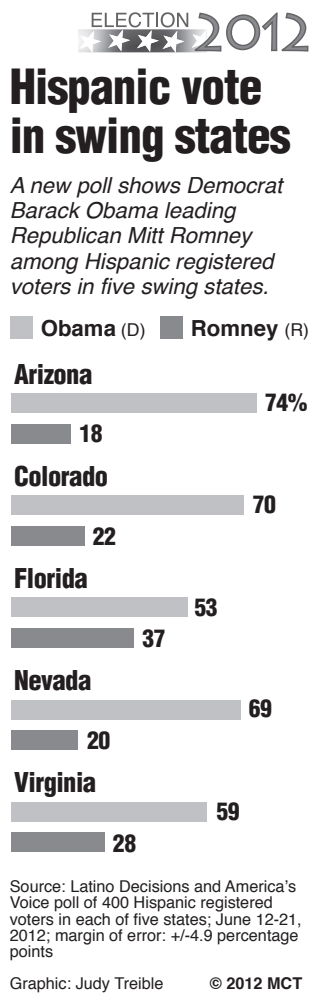
It's a delicate task. These voters also hate pandering.

"I don't believe in nothing they say," says Carol Barber of Ashland, Ky., among the 27 percent of the electorate that hasn't determined whom to back or that doesn't have a strong preference about a candidate.

Like many uncommitted voters, the 66-year-old Barber isn't really paying attention to politics these days. She's largely focused on her husband, who just had a liver transplant, and the fact that she had to refinance her home to pay much of his health bill. "I just can't concentrate on it now," she says before adding, "If there were somebody running who knows what it's like to struggle, that would be different."

John Robinson, a 49-year-old general contractor from Santa Cruz, Calif., is paying a bit more attention, but is just as turned off by both candidates.

"I'm just bitter about everybody. They just keep talking and wavering," said Robinson, a conservative who backed the GOP nominee in 2008, Arizona Sen. John McCain, but is undecided between Obama and Romney. "There's nothing I can really say that's appealing about either one of them."



To be sure, many of the 1-in-4 voters who today say they are uncommitted will settle on a candidate by Election Day, Nov. 6.

Until then, Obama and Romney will spend huge amounts of time and money trying to win their votes, especially in the most competitive states that tend to swing between Republicans and Democrats each presidential election. Obama and Romney face the same hurdle, winning over wavering voters without alienating core supporters they need to canvass neighborhoods and staff telephone banks this fall to help make sure their backers actually vote.

"It presents an interesting challenge to the campaigns," said Steve McMahon, a founding partner in Purple Strategies, a bipartisan crisis management firm. "Moving to the middle means winning these voters, but it also means creating problems with your base."

Obama has sought to straddle both the left and the middle by announcing policies that expand access to contraception and allow immigrants brought illegally to the United States as children to be exempted from deportation and granted work permits if they applied.

Both issues are popular with his core supporters and centrist voters. The president also is promoting a list of what he says are bipartisan measures that would help homeowners, veterans, teachers and police officers, and he accuses Republicans of causing gridlock by refusing to act on them. It's a pitch intended for independent-minded voters frustrated by inaction in Washington.

Forecasters: Debby trains sights on Fla., Ala.

MIAMI (AP)—Slow-moving Tropical Storm Debby's outer bands lashed Florida with rain and kicked up rough surf off Alabama on Sunday, prompting warnings for those states and causing at least one death.

The death in Florida was blamed on a tornado spawned by the storm, while a man went missing in the Gulf at an Alabama beach.

Underscoring the storm's unpredictable nature, forecasters discontinued a tropical storm warning for Louisiana after forecast models indicated Debby was less likely to make a westward turn than initially predicted. Coastal Alabama and parts of Florida, including the Panhandle, remained under tropical storm warnings.

Debby already has dumped heavy rain on parts of Florida and spawned some isolated tornadoes, causing damage to homes and knocking down power lines. High winds forced the closure of an interstate bridge that spans Tampa Bay and links St. Petersburg with areas to the southeast.

Storm tracks are difficult to predict days in advance. But as of late Sunday the latest forecast map shows the center of the storm 100 miles (165 km) south-southwest of Apalachicola, Fla., and likely to meander northward for several days before making landfall.

Chris Landsea, a meteorologist at the National Hurricane Center, said forecasters rely on computer models which were contradictory until Sunday.

"They came into a bit more of an agreement that the westward turn is less likely," he said.

Landsea said every storm is different and has different characteristics, "and in this case it's a very unpredictable storm." He said Debby could become a hurricane.

A major concern will be flooding from heavy rainfall. The storm is moving slowly, allowing its clouds more time to unload rain. A public advisory said parts of Florida and southeast Georgia could receive 5 to 10 inches of rain, with some areas getting as much as 20.

Debby's top sustained winds were at about 60 mph (95 kph). The storm was moving toward the northeast at 3 mph (6 kph).

ACROSS THE NATION

Critics blast Tennessee's 'no holding-hands bill'

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)—Spurred by a classroom demonstration involving a sex toy, Tennessee recently enacted a pro-abstinence sex education law that is among the strictest in the nation. The most debated section of the bill bars educators from promoting "gateway sexual activity." But supporters seemed too squeamish during floor debate to specify what that meant, so critics soon labeled it the "no holding-hands bill." One thing missing from the debate in the Legislature was a discussion of whether the law signed by Republican Gov. Bill Haslam last month really would help reduce Tennessee's high teenage pregnancy rate. Experts say it won't and warn that it leaves teenagers inadequately educated about sexuality and prevention of pregnancy and disease.

Neighbors: Sisters of girl in closet clean, happy

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP)—Two little girls in a Kansas City apartment complex had perfectly braided hair, neighbors said Sunday, and were clean, happy and, if anything, "spoiled." But the girls, ages 2 and 8, had a secret: a 10-year-old sister who weighed just 32 pounds when she was freed Friday from a locked closet that reeked of urine. "We are all still shocked," neighbor Aishah Coppage, 28, said Sunday. "We never knew there was a third child." Officers freed the girl, who will turn 11 later this summer, after responding Friday morning to a call from a child abuse hotline. The neighbors—including one of Coppage's daughters and a niece—watched as the girl was carried to an ambulance wearing a dingy white, toddler-sized shirt and no shoes. "She was real skinny," said 14-year-old Kelisha Parrish, Coppage's niece.

Banana truck crash destroys 1745 Mass. building

SEEKONK, Mass. (AP)—An out-of-control tractor-trailer carrying bananas crashed into a natural gas main and ignited an explosion on Sunday morning, setting fire to an 18th-century building that housed a tavern and destroying it. Fire officials in Seekonk, about 6 miles east of Providence, R.I., said the 18-wheeler fell on its side and slid into the Old Grist Mill Tavern, whose website says the building was constructed in 1745 for grinding grain raised by area farmers. The truck "slid along the ground and took out the gas main and the electrical lines," tavern owner Greg Esmay told The Providence Journal newspaper. "There was a pretty good explosion, and it started a fire."

Asia

Pakistan: Buddha attacked by Taliban gets facelift

JAHANABAD, Pakistan (AP)—When the Taliban blew the face off a towering, 1,500-year-old rock carving of Buddha in northwest Pakistan almost five years ago, it fell to an intrepid Italian archaeologist to come to the rescue.

Thanks to the efforts of Luca Olivieri and his partners, the 6-meter (nearly 20-foot)-tall image near the town of Jahanabad is getting a facelift, and many other archaeological treasures in the scenic Swat Valley are being excavated and preserved.

Hard-line Muslims have a history of targeting Buddhist, Hindu and other religious sites they consider heretical to Islam. Six months before the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks, the Taliban shocked the world by dynamiting a pair of 1,500-year-old Buddhist statues in central Afghanistan.

The Jahanabad Buddha, etched high on a huge rock face in the 6th or 7th century, is one of the largest such carvings in South Asia. It was attacked in the fall of 2007 when the Pakistani Taliban swarmed across the scenic Swat Valley. The army drove most of them out two years later, but foreign tourists who used to visit the region still tend to stay away.

Olivieri himself had to leave in 2008 after more than two decades of tending to the riches dating back to Alexander the Great and the Buddhist, Hindu and Muslim invaders who followed. The 49-year-old head of the Italian Archaeological Mission in Pakistan returned in 2010 and is back at work.

Taliban militants climbed ropes to insert explosives in holes drilled into the face and shoulders of the Jahanabad Buddha, said Olivieri. The explosives in the shoulders failed to detonate, but the others blew off most of the face above the lips and cracked other parts of the carving and surrounding rock.

Olivieri and his team began work this month on fixing the cracks and what's left of the face. A full reconstruction is impossible because detailed documentation and fragments of the face are lacking.

"Whatever you do in the absence of perfect data is a fake," said Olivieri, who says he has wanted to be an archaeologist since age 6 and still brings a youthful exuberance to his work even as his beard grows gray.

Arriving as a university student in 1987, he was fascinated by Swat, once an important center of Buddhist culture and trade. The monk credited with introducing Buddhism to Tibet, Padmasambhava, was born in Swat.

In more recent decades, the area was known as "the Switzerland of Pakistan," popular with religious tourists from China, Japan and South Korea, and the hope is that restoration of the Jahanabad Buddha will spark a revival of tourism here.

Olivieri's mission is funded by the Italian government, which works with local Pakistani antiquities authorities. It has uncovered over 120 Buddhist sites among Swat's soaring hills and rushing rivers. Of roughly 200 Buddhist rock carvings in Swat, the Jahanabad Buddha was among the few to survive with its face intact for so long, said Olivieri. Most were defaced centuries ago by Muslim invaders who, like the Taliban, consider Buddha a false idol.

Maulana Shamsur Rehman, a leading Islamist politician in Swat, says the attack on the Buddha should never have happened. Islam preaches freedom and protection for followers of all religions, he told The Associated Press, and "in line with Islamic rules, nobody should have an objection to the repair work on the Buddha statue."

In 2001, militants damaged the excavated ruins of a 7th century Hindu temple in Swat overlooking a stronghold conquered by Alexander in the 4th century B.C. Unable to protect the temple, the Italian mission had to rebury it.

Ironically, the site that Olivieri was most worried about during the Taliban's violent reign in Swat was an Islamic one—the roughly 1,000-year-old Udegram Ghaznavid mosque, the third oldest in Pakistan. He feared the militants would occupy and damage it, but that never happened.

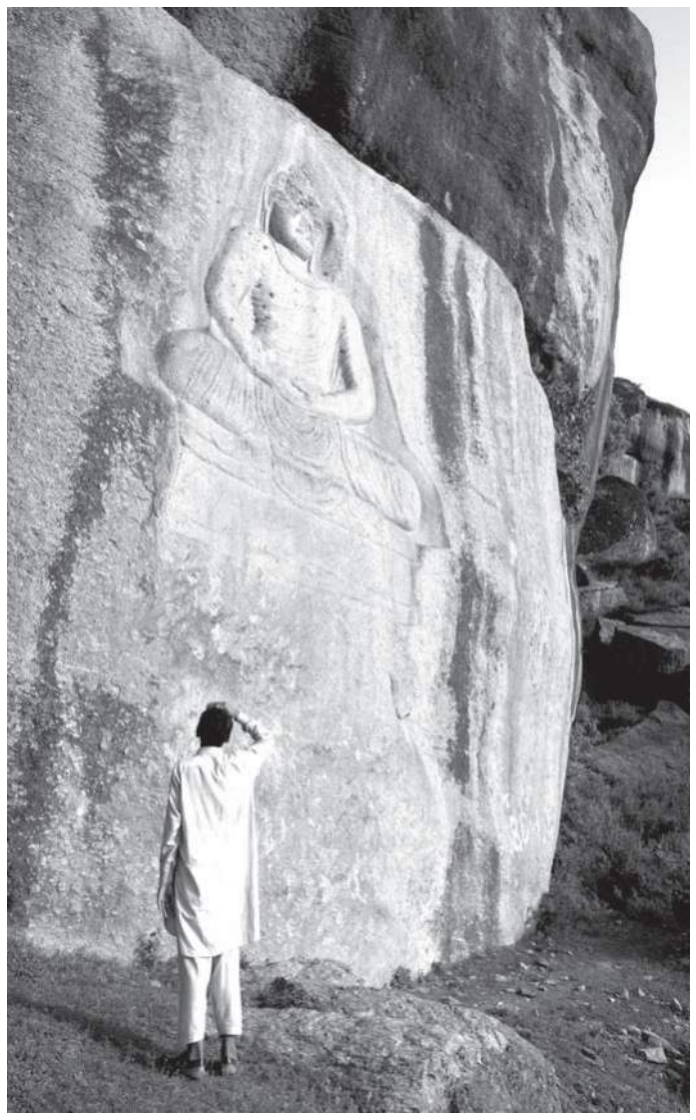
Pakistani security officials say the Taliban are again trying to infiltrate Swat, but militants are not the only threat to the archaeological sites. Looters are perhaps a bigger problem. Many relics looted from Swat are in private and public collections around the world.

In December police arrested several men in Swat and seized a roughly one-meter-(three-foot) tall, 1,800-year-old Buddhist statue that could have fetched tens of thousands of dollars on the international antiquities market.

The Italian mission has posted guards at the most important sites and is also training them to become guides by teaching them English, first aid and basic conservation techniques, said Olivieri.

The mission opened in 1955 in an office provided by the Wali of Swat, the one-time princely ruler of the territory. To furnish a taste of home, its first draftsman painted a mural of Rome's Spanish Steps in the dining room.

The feeling of glimpsing Italy in the wilds of Pakistan's northwest continues today. There's espresso in the morning and Italian olive oil on the dining room table. A Fiat Campagnola jeep shipped from Italy in 1955 is due to end up in a museum in Swat.



AP

In this May 24, 2012 photo, a villager looks at a sculpture of the Buddha whose face was destroyed by Taliban fighters at Jahanabad, Pakistan in the Swat valley.

Japan's PM faces intraparty revolt over tax hike

TOKYO (AP)—A battle between rival blocs in Japan's ruling party escalated Monday ahead of a tax hike vote that is threatening to split the party and weaken Prime Minister Yoshihiko Noda's hold on power.

The legislation expected to come before Parliament on Tuesday includes a doubling of the current 5 percent sales tax. Noda says it is needed to fight Japan's swelling national debt, but the political maneuvering has overshadowed economic debate on the bill.

Media reports Monday said more than 50 ruling party lawmakers plan to vote against it. That would not be enough to kill the bill, because it also has opposition party backing.

But the reports also said dozens of lawmakers are considering leaving the ruling party altogether in protest. If 54 or more do so, Noda's party would lose its majority in Parliament's lower house and he would be vulnerable to a no-confidence vote.

Noda, who took office last September, has said he's ready to stake his career on the tax bill. Public opinion seems to be split between those who believe action must be taken to shore up the economy and those who are more concerned about how it will affect their own personal finances.

The revolt is being led by Ichiro Ozawa, Noda's biggest rival in the ruling Democratic Party. Opponents of the plan to double the sales tax over three years say that it will stall economic growth and reduce consumer demand.

Ozawa helped create the Democratic Party but has since fallen out with its leadership and been embroiled in allegations of corruption. He has threatened to bolt before, and his 1993 departure from the party that previously ruled the country helped set the stage for the Democrats to rise to power.

Both sides held talks Monday and jockeyed for an advantage as the vote in Parliament neared. Several newspapers reported Ozawa would fall short of the 54 mark. That would still be a major setback for Noda, who has struggled since taking office to deal with the economic impact of last year's devastating earthquake and tsunami.

ASIAN BRIEFS

NKorea slams US, SKorea use of flag in war drills

PYONGYANG, North Korea (AP)—North Korea is calling the use of its national flag in U.S.-South Korean military drills a "grave provocative act" and an insult. An unidentified Foreign Ministry spokesman said in a statement late Sunday that Pyongyang will continue boosting its nuclear weapons program because of U.S. hostility. The statement calls the program "an all-powerful treasured sword for preventing a war." The drills Friday were the allies' biggest since the Korean War. A huge North Korean flag on a hill disappeared behind flames and smoke as South Korean jets and U.S. helicopters fired rockets. The U.N. Security Council condemned a North Korean rocket launch in April that Seoul and Washington called a cover for a test of banned long-range missile technology. North Korea says it was meant to launch a satellite.

Philippines: Chinese boats leave disputed lagoon

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—The Philippines says China has withdrawn its boats from the lagoon of a tiny disputed shoal that has been the focus of the countries' territorial dispute in the South China Sea. The Philippine government earlier pulled out the two vessels it had at Scarborough Shoal but President Benigno Aquino III last week threatened to send them back unless China also withdrew. Foreign Secretary Albert del Rosario said Monday that he has received information that all boats have left the shoal's lagoon as of two days ago. Both countries claim the shoal. Tensions flared in April when the Philippines accused Chinese fishermen of poaching there.

4 NATO service members killed in Afghanistan

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—NATO says four service members have died in southern Afghanistan in the past two days. The alliance says one service member died in an insurgent attack and another in a bomb blast on Saturday. The two other service members died Sunday in a traffic accident in the south. The coalition did not identify the nationalities of the dead or give further details. NATO forces usually wait for individual nations to identify their dead.

Endangered Sumatran rhino gives birth in Indonesia

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP)—A highly endangered Sumatran rhinoceros gave birth to a calf Saturday in western Indonesia, a forestry official said. It is only the fifth known birth in captivity for the species in 123 years. The mother, Ratu, delivered the male calf after a nearly 16-month pregnancy at Way Kambas National Park in Lampung province, said Novianto Bambang, director of biodiversity conservation at the Forestry Ministry. "This is a historic birth because Sumatran rhinos are on the brink of extinction," Bambang said.

Australia ends search for 90 missing from boat

CANBERRA, Australia (AP)—Australia has ended a three-day search for survivors among more than 90 Afghan asylum seekers missing since a fishing boat carrying them capsized between Australia and Indonesia.

The Australian Maritime Safety Authority says the air and sea search for survivors ended late Saturday and that all of the missing are now presumed dead.

No survivor has been found since the day of the tragedy on Thursday, when 108 men and a 13-year-old boy were rescued from the Indian Ocean.

Searchers will now focus on recovery of bodies. The safety authority said six bodies had been retrieved by Saturday, and more had been seen by planes searching for survivors.

More than 200 males seeking asylum in Australia were aboard the Indonesian fishing boat.

World

Islamist leader declared president of Egypt

CAIRO (AP)—The Muslim Brotherhood's Mohammed Morsi was declared the winner of Egypt's first free presidential election Sunday, and he proclaimed himself a leader "for all Egyptians," although he faces a struggle for power with the country's still-dominant military rulers.

The announcement by election officials touched off a joyous celebration of chanting and dancing in the sweltering heat by tens of thousands of Morsi's supporters jamming Tahrir Square, the birthplace of the uprising that toppled Hosni Mubarak 16 months ago.

It also capped a week of growing political tension in the streets after authorities delayed announcing the results of the June 16-17 runoff election between Morsi and Mubarak's former prime minister, Ahmed Shafiq.

Tanks and other signs of heavy security had been deployed around the country, especially outside state institutions, in anticipation of possible violence reminiscent of the first days of last year's revolution.

President Barack Obama telephoned the U.S.-educated Morsi to congratulate him on his victory and offer continued support for Egypt's transition to democracy. The White House said Morsi expressed appreciation for Obama's call and "welcomed U.S. support for Egypt's transition."

The reaction from Israel was subdued, with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu saying he respected the results of Egypt's democratic process and hoped the peace agreement between the two countries would remain intact. Ecstatic residents in the Hamas-ruled Gaza Strip filled the streets, fired guns in the air and handed out candy.

Speaking on Egyptian television Sunday evening, Morsi declared he had a "message of peace. We will respect all international agreements." He did not mention Israel but the remark seemed to be a reassuring nod to respecting the peace treaty.

The election commission said Morsi won 51.7 percent in the runoff—a margin of only 800,000 votes—over Shafiq, a former air force colonel who was perceived to be the favorite of the military council that took over from Mubarak.

AP

In this image taken from Egypt State TV, newly-elect President Mohammed Morsi delivers a speech in Cairo, Egypt, Sunday, June 24, 2012.

"I know they have sold the revolution short before. But they are better than the `felool,'" she said, referring to the remnants of the old regime. "I will stand with the Brotherhood against the military for now, and later I will fight off the Brotherhood's hold," she added.

In his speech, Morsi sought to reach out to the activists by paying tribute to the nearly 900 protesters killed in the uprising. "I wouldn't have been here between your hands as the first elected president without ... the blood, the tears, and sacrifices of the martyrs," he said.

A week ago, when the polls were closing in the runoff election, the Supreme Council of the Armed Forces (SCAF) issued constitutional amendments that stripped the president's office of most of its major powers. The ruling generals made themselves the final arbiters over the most pressing issues still complicating the transition- such as writing the constitution, legislating, passing the state budget- and granted military police broad powers to detain civilians.

Israel jittery after Brotherhood victory in Egypt

JERUSALEM (AP)—The Muslim Brotherhood victory in Egyptian presidential elections, announced Sunday, has raised fears in Israel that its strategic 1979 peace agreement with its southern neighbor could be in danger.

In contrast, in the Hamas-ruled Gaza Strip, ecstatic residents flocked into the streets, fired guns in the air and handed out candy in celebration.

Israel's peace agreement with Egypt, its first with an Arab country, is a cornerstone of Israeli security. The agreement ended decades of hostilities, with to five wars and thousands of deaths.

While relations have never been warm, Egypt has upheld the deal, keeping its bordering Sinai peninsula largely demilitarized, allowing the Israeli military to focus on other hostile borders with the Palestinians, Syria and Lebanon.

In a statement, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said he respected the results of Egypt's democratic process and hoped the peace agreement would remain intact.

"Israel expects to continue cooperation with the Egyptian government on the basis of the peace agreement between the two countries, which is of interest to the two peoples and contributes to regional stability," he said.

With the Egyptian military still the ultimate power in Egypt, senior Israeli defense officials who maintain contacts with Egypt said Sunday that they do not expect any immediate changes in relations. Over the long term, they warned, the Brotherhood may seek to cancel the peace agreement. The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were discussing a sensitive security assessment.

The Muslim Brotherhood, founded in Egypt in 1928, is a pan-Arabic movement that favors creation of a Muslim state that encompasses the entire Middle East. It has never given up that goal, but as it gains official power in Egypt, winning parliamentary elections and now the presidency, it has indicated pragmatic willingness to accept the existence of Israel.

Addressing his nation Sunday evening, Morsi declared he had a "message of peace. We will respect all international agreements," he said, without mentioning Israel.

Although some Brotherhood leaders have said they will never meet with an Israeli official, they have been careful to say they would not cancel the treaty. Like many other Egyptians, they favor amendments—primarily to allow more Egyptian troops into the Sinai. Israel has already permitted an increase of troops there, demanding that Egypt bring violent extremists under control.

"I tell everybody in this memorable day, that because of your choice, your will, and after God's favor, I am a president for all Egyptians," the 60-year-old engineer, professor and former lawmaker said in his speech, delivered stiffly as he read from notes.

Monday's editions of Freedom and Justice, the Muslim Brotherhood's newspaper that bears the same name as the group's political party, bannered the headline: "The street explodes with joy, the people write history: Morsi President of Egypt."

It was a stunning victory for the Muslim Brotherhood, a group that was outlawed under Mubarak. But the liberal and secular youth groups that drove the uprising were left wondering whether Egypt has taken a step toward becoming a repressive Islamist state, or a new power sharing agreement between Morsi and the military—the traditional power brokers.

"This is not the best scenario I anticipated," said Sarah Kamal, a liberal activist who was in Tahrir Square when Morsi's victory was announced. She ululated and cheered for him despite criticism from many of her friends that Morsi would endanger a secular Egypt.

NATO to discuss downing of Turkish plane by Syria

ANKARA, Turkey (AP)—NATO will hold emergency talks on Tuesday to discuss Syria's downing of a Turkish jet fighter, but the alliance is not expected to take military action, even if it confirms Turkey's claim that the unarmed plane was attacked in international airspace.

The incident has further raised regional tensions over the conflict in Syria, where some 40 people were reported killed Sunday in new clashes between rebels and government troops. On Sunday, U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton sharply criticized Syria for downing the Turkish plane, which Turkey's Foreign Ministry called an "open and grave violation of international law" that would justify retaliation.

"The United States condemns this brazen and unacceptable act in the strongest possible terms," Clinton said in Washington. "It is yet another reflection of the Syrian authorities' callous disregard for international norms, human life, and peace and security."

Clinton said Washington will maintain close contact with Turkish officials as they determine their response, including via the U.N. Security Council. "We will work with Turkey and other partners to hold the Assad regime accountable," she said.

WORLD BRIEFS

DEA agent kills suspected trafficker in Honduras

TEGUCIGALPA, Honduras (AP)—A U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration agent has shot and killed a suspected drug trafficker during a raid in a remote northern area of Honduras known as a destination for illicit flights carrying cocaine from South America, U.S. officials said Sunday. The incident marked the first time that a DEA agent has killed someone during an operation since the agency began deploying specially trained agents several years ago to accompany local law enforcement personnel on drug raids in Latin America, said DEA spokeswoman Dawn Dearden. Saturday's raid was the fourth operation in two months in a stepped-up U.S.-Honduran effort to fight drug trafficking in the sparsely populated areas of the country, where flights from Venezuela land on dirt airstrips and locals are paid to transport the illegal cargo to boats headed to the Caribbean.

Grenade attack kills 1 near Kenyan coast city

MOMBASA, Kenya (AP)—An official says a grenade attack has killed one person and wounded many others on the Kenyan coast. Police official Aggrey Adoli said the grenade was thrown into a bar outside the coastal city of Mombasa late Sunday. He said one person was killed and many others wounded. Local media said 12 were wounded. Kenya has seen several small-scale grenade attacks since the country sent troops to Somalia in October. The latest attack came only hours after Kenyan officials protested a U.S. Embassy travel advisory released Friday that warned of an imminent attack in Mombasa. The officials said the advisory amounted to "economic sabotage" in a city that relies on tourism.

Officials: 1 feared dead in Canada roof collapse

ELLIOT LAKE, Ontario (AP)—At least one person is feared dead and another trapped inside the rubble of a roof collapse at mall in northern Ontario, authorities said Sunday. More than 24 hours after the collapse, rescue workers have been unable to reach the victims because the structure is too unstable. But images taken with the camera show a hand and foot in the dusty debris, said Ontario Provincial Police Insp. Percy Jollymore. Fire officials heard tapping Sunday morning in another part of the rubble, but nothing had been heard for hours. They said they also tried to reach that person by drilling through a wall, but found the structure too unsafe to risk entering far enough inside.

Focus

As Title IX turns 40, legacy goes beyond numbers

By NANCY ARMOUR
AP NATIONAL WRITER

NORTHFIELD, Ill. (AP)—Emily Miller remembers learning about Title IX during history class, probably sometime in junior high. She's a little fuzzy on the details, including how and why it came about.

Every time she steps on the soccer field, though, she feels its effect.

At 16, Miller can't even imagine who she'd be without the game. She's played since kindergarten, and credits soccer for her independence and self-confidence. Now a starter on the varsity team at New Trier High School in suburban Chicago, she's proud when someone describes her as "the athlete" or "the soccer player."

"Soccer," she said, "is what makes me Emily Miller."

As Title IX celebrates its 40th anniversary Saturday, the WNBA is in its 16th season, Hope Solo and Natalie Coughlin will be two of the biggest names at the London Olympics and participation numbers for women in college and high school athletics are at an all-time high. But perhaps the greatest legacy of the legislation originally intended to prohibit discrimination in education is found in Miller and the hundreds of thousands of girls like her: a generation of young women growing up strong and self-assured because of their participation in sports. A generation for whom sports is so ingrained in their lives, they can't fathom being on the sidelines.

A generation for whom Title IX is ancient history, if they remember it at all.

"That's the way it should be," said former Sen. Birch Bayh, who co-authored and sponsored Title IX. "It should be a given. That's what we were trying to accomplish."

■ ■ ■ ■

The words "sports" or "athletics" are not even mentioned in Title IX. At a time when women earned 9 percent of all medical degrees and just 7 percent of law degrees, Bayh and the other Title IX supporters were simply hoping to provide more opportunities for women in higher education, give them a better shot at higher-paying jobs.

"It was clear that the greatest danger or damage being done to women was the inequality of higher education," said Bayh, whose late wife, Marvella, had once been rejected by the University of Virginia. "If you give a person an education, whether it's a boy or girl, young woman or young man, they will have the tools necessary to make a life for families and themselves."

But just as admissions numbers and financial aid fell under the broad definition of "education program," so, too, did athletics.

"Sport is an educational opportunity. You learn about yourself and the world through sport," said Angela Ruggiero, president-elect of the Women's Sports Foundation and a member of the 1998 U.S. team that won the first Olympic gold medal in women's ice hockey.

It wouldn't be enough for schools to tack sign-up sheets on a bulletin board and count that as a team, or clear out a storage closet and call it a locker room. Title IX law called for equal opportunity to play, and that meant schools had to offer scholarships and provide the same access to equipment, coaching and facilities.

Some prominent coaches and athletic directors, worried that Title IX would gut football, pushed to have revenue sports—namely football—excluded from the compliance formula. But their attempt to amend the legislation in 1973 backfired. Spectacularly.

The Department of Health, Education and Welfare was instead ordered to develop a framework for how Title IX was to be interpreted and followed, with most of the regulations addressing athletics. It was these rules, issued in 1975, that provided the backbone for the legislation and have allowed it to withstand repeated challenges in court.

"They could have gotten exemptions for the big sports ... if they didn't cry so much about it," said Donna Lopiano, who has been at the forefront of defending Title IX, first as the women's athletics director at Texas from 1975-92 and then as CEO of the Women's Sports Foundation from 1992 to 2007. "It created this media attention that allowed the women to voice the benefits of sport for boys and girls, and they convinced the public and Congress this was important for boys and girls. That was a tremendous accident."

Once given the chance, girls flocked to the playing fields.

Before Title IX, fewer than 300,000 high school girls—one in 27—played sports; there were less than 32,000 female athletes at the collegiate level. By 1974, just two years after the passage of Title IX, the number of high schoolers participating in sports had skyrocketed to 1.3 million.

Now more than 3 million high school girls—one in two—play sports. More than 191,000 females played NCAA sports in 2010-11. And unlike their mothers or grandmothers, who were often limited to basketball and softball if they did get a chance to play, women are now participating in everything from squash to skiing, rugby to wrestling.

AP

In a May 22, 2012 photo, Aly Marzonie prepares for a game in the Illinois High School Association girls' soccer tournament in Skokie, Ill. Marzonie, a graduating senior, is an outgoing captain of the New Trier High School girls soccer team in Chicago's north suburbs.

"Title IX was the second-most important piece of civil rights legislation passed in this country," said Debbie Yow, athletic director at N.C. State. "Had it not passed, the options and opportunities for women in this country and the world would be vastly different."

Aside from the general health benefits of any physical activity, studies have shown that female athletes do better in school and have higher graduation rates. White female athletes had a 74 percent graduation rate compared with 68 percent for the overall student body, according to the most recent federal government calculations. The graduation rate for black female athletes was 66 percent, compared with just 46 percent in the overall student population.

A 2002 survey by Oppenheimer Funds found that 82 percent of female business executives had played organized sports after elementary school.

"We compete every day in life, and it taught us how to in a healthy way," Yow said. "In a more comprehensive way, it taught us how to lead."

Female athletes are also less likely to smoke, use drugs or be suicidal. And, according to the Women's Sports Foundation Report: Sport and Teen Pregnancy, published in 1998, teenage athletes were less than half as likely to get pregnant as non-athletes, and are more likely to delay having sex for the first time.

The intangible benefits may be even greater.

Aly Marzonie, one of Miller's teammates, would barely say a word on the field after making the varsity squad as a sophomore. Two years later she was a co-captain, and it was her voice that could be heard above the crowd during games, calling out directions and encouragement to teammates. Marzonie has learned how to work and get along with teammates she might not otherwise consider friends, and she's got enough self-confidence to hold her own in conversations with both adults and fellow teenagers. Her time-management skills would put some folks twice her age to shame.

Marzonie may have learned these skills through soccer, but she'll use them long after her playing career is over.

"Any situation, I could relate to soccer," she said. "It's nice to revert back to something I'm comfortable with in an uncomfortable situation."

It's not just women whose mindset has changed over these last 40 years. Boys have grown up watching sisters, friends, classmates, even their mothers play sports, and the distinction between an "athlete" and a "female athlete" has faded. All four of tennis' Grand Slam tournaments pay equal prize money to the men's and women's winners. Last year's Women's World Cup final between the United States and Japan earned the highest television rating for any soccer game on an ESPN network.

Not only is Notre Dame guard Skylar Diggins the highest rated college player on Tweetscenter's most recent "Power Rankings and Swag Index," at No. 6 she's one spot above Kevin Durant. Diggins' jersey may as well be the uniform at Irish coach Muffet McGraw's summer basketball camps—for both girls and boys.

"It's rewarding to look at that and see they have such great respect for (Diggins) and what she's accomplished," McGraw said. "They don't care she's a girl, they just know she can play."

For all the strides female athletes have made, however, the playing field is not yet even. Women typically make up more than half of the student population, but were only 43 percent of the athletes last year, according to the NCAA. A 2007 study found that female athletes had received only 35 percent of total athletic expenditures in 2004-05. In the latest update of their "Women in Intercollegiate Sport" study, R. Vivian Acosta and Linda Jean Carpenter found there were 215 female athletic directors at NCAA schools in 2012. But only 36 were in Division I, and less than 5 percent of those were at Football Bowl Subdivision schools, the power brokers in collegiate sports.

And even though Title IX has been upheld by the courts time and again, it remains a matter of debate in the court of public opinion. There was a net loss of 300 men's teams in Division I between 1988-89 and 2009-10, according to the NCAA, and Title IX is often blamed for the cuts. Never mind that there's nothing in the legislation about cutting men's teams to create opportunities for women. Or that the huge size—and expense—of football squads creates an inherent imbalance.

"There's a lot more gains to be had," Ruggiero said. "I think there's a lot more room for growth, certainly in the participation numbers."

There is also a vast difference when it comes to fan interest in women's sports—at all levels.

Though the WNBA has not only survived but thrived, thanks in large part to early support from the NBA, there is no other major women's professional league. Not even the fervor that surrounded last summer's World Cup could save Women's Professional Soccer, which folded last month after three seasons. The NCAA set an attendance record for women's basketball with 11.2 million people last season—and that was still only about a third of the 33 million fans the men drew.

Entire towns turn out for a high school football game while the girls are lucky to get a few handfuls of friends to join their parents in the stands.

"Football is so intense for boys, and girls' sports should be looked at like that, too," said Maddie Mulford, another New Trier player. "We're all athletes. Our goals are all the same."

Equal opportunity, on the field and off.

Though athletics may not have been the main objective of Title IX, the original supporters get immense satisfaction whenever they see a playing field filled with girls. Or hear fathers exhorting their daughters the same as they do their sons: Run! Shoot! Tackle!

Because as girls like Mulford and Miller show, the lessons and attitudes learned on the field are not left there. They apply everywhere, to everyone.

"What makes the papers is the sporting aspect. But at the bottom of it, what we're talking about is how do we educate our children to the best of their abilities?" Ruggiero said. "Whether that's in the science department, math department, athletic department, it's one in the same.

"When you break it down, you're going to support Title IX," she added. "It wasn't, 'Let's make a quota.' It was, 'How do we better educate our children?' And athletics is part of it."

"No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving federal financial assistance —Title IX"

Overdrive

Kia Rio has come a long way

By LARRY PRINTZ
THE VIRGINIAN-PILOT

If you think buying a hybrid will go a long way toward minimizing trips to the fueling station, I would offer up the redesigned Kia Rio as an alternative.

Go ahead, snicker or grimace. I understand.

After all, these six letters, K-I-A R-I-O, was once the automotive equivalent of a wearing a flour sack, an acronym for the bottom 10 percent. Kia served this segment of the market with a low price, but not much else. The first Rio I drove, about 14 years ago, was so miserable that I advised buyers to consider a used car instead.

But 14 years is an eternity in the car business. Today, Kia is no longer an independent company; it's an affiliate of Hyundai.

Kia shares its mechanical bits, but not styling studios, with its corporate sibling, and that's where Kia has become a fascinating proposition. You see, new Kias, such as the Rio, were sculpted under the supervision of design chieftain Peter Schreyer, who was lured away from Volkswagen about five years ago.

So, like finalists on American Idol, today's Kias are almost unrecognizable from their humble roots. OK, so most people consider Rios blue-light specials. But tell me: Outside of Target, when did inexpensive merchandise ever look so good?

There are little bits of intelligent design everywhere on this car. Check out the distinctive Kia grille. Now, walk around to the back of the car and check out the shape that frames the license plate and rear marker lights; it mirrors the grille shape up front. Cast your gaze on the car's side sculpting and its sloping beltline: it imparts a sense of motion.

Inside, the instrument panel has the sort of shape seen on other new Kias, and first used by designer Schreyer on various Audi models. Check out the climate controls: three simple knobs accented with chrome rings. Underneath them are four simple toggle switches—an unexpected touch that hasn't been seen in some time. It's a small touch, perhaps. But it's a sign of the in-depth thought given to the notion that good design costs no more than bad.

KIA/MCT

The 2012 Kia Rio looks very different these days, thanks in no small part to Kia design chieftain Peter Schreyer, who was lured away from Volkswagen.

NUTS & BOLTS

2012 Kia Rio:

- Engine: 1.6-liter four cylinder
- Wheelbase: 101.2 inches
- Length: 171.9 inches
- Weight: 2,483 pounds
- Cargo space: 13.7 cubic feet
- EPA rating (city/highway): 30/40 mpg
- Fuel consumption: 33.6 mpg
- Fuel type: Regular
- Base price, base model: $13,600
- Base price, test model: $16,500
- As tested, including destination charge: $20,545

Seriously, if the 2012 Kia Rio sported a tonier badge, it would be more popular than fried chicken at a picnic.

The cabin feels conspicuously roomier than its subcompact competitors. Room for four? No prob. Five? It's doable if they share DNA. Legroom and headroom are much better than expected. The seats are flat, but offer decent support.

By now, you understand that Kia has learned from Hyundai that offering more space and style at a low price attracts buyers, on a budget or otherwise.

Kia carries this thought one step further by offering the sort of toys once reserved for the top one percent: rear back-up camera, Bluetooth, GPS navigation and steering-wheel controls for audio and cruise control. Then there are the niceties everyone can appreciate: tilt/telescopic steering wheel, push-button start, heated front seats, anti-lock disc brakes, traction control, stability control and hill assist control.

Of course, how much of this your Rio has depends on trim level. The base LX doesn't get all of these features, but you may be surprised at what it does have: AM/FM/CD/MP3/Sirius satellite radio audio system, USB jacks, steering wheel-mounted audio buttons, air conditioning, tilt wheel and six-way adjustable driver's seat.

Opting for the mid-level LX or sporty SX merely nets more gear.

The test car, a fully loaded SX, didn't feel as expensive as its sticker suggested, but lacked nothing in the way of comfort or convenience items. While it's doubtful that anyone would order a Rio this way, it's nice to know it's offered.

All models share the same engine: a 1.6-liter unit mated to a six-speed manual or automatic transmission. It produces 138 horsepower through the front wheels.

UNDER THE HOOD

Low mileage puzzles Escape driver

By BRAD BERGHOLDT
MCCLATCHY-TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

QUESTION: I have 2007 Ford Escape with 90,000 miles. I have been noticing I am getting very poor mileage per gallon and air conditioning is also very poor. I have asked my trusted mechanic, and he does not have any good suggestions. Can you please suggest what could be causing this?—Vijay Pendse

ANSWER: Gas mileage has to be one of the most difficult topics to get a handle on, as there are so many variables. Depending on the Escape's engine—3.0 liter V-6 or 2.3 liter four-cylinder—transmission type, and trim level, the EPA's fuel economy ratings range from 17 city, 21 highway to 21 city, 27 highway miles per gallon. And everyone knows these are tough to match, especially the city number.

An even weightier variable is how the vehicle is driven. Cold weather, frequent cold starts and short trips, and stop and go traffic could easily cut the city number in half.

Driving techniques are also a big factor, as well as tire choice, proper tire inflation and minimizing unneeded cargo. Each time the brakes are applied, hard-earned kinetic energy is burned off as heat. Coasting, rather than braking, into traffic slowdowns can make a noticeable difference in fuel economy. With the manual transmission, lugging the engine slightly rather than allowing it to rev improves efficiency; the further open the throttle is, the less pumping losses occur. Tall, thin, hard tires roll more easily than wide, sticky performance-oriented tires, and running them at or slightly above the door sticker number provides the best fuel performance.

You didn't mention if the fuel economy had recently dropped or has been continually disappointing. With the Escape's engine diagnostics, it's unlikely a significant problem could be occurring that would affect fuel economy yet not illuminate the check engine light. There are certainly things that can go wrong with an engine, such as valve or cylinder sealing problems, air-fuel ratio or ignition timing faults, an exhaust restriction, or even transmission issues that result in incorrect shifting or an inoperative torque converter clutch. In just about every case, the sensors or actuators involved, or the inferred readings they provide, would indicate a fault that raises emissions or cuts into engine efficiency, and result in a glowing indicator.

Could your mileage have dropped due to the installation of a new set of tires or a change in driving routines? Your technician has surely checked the air filter, scanned codes and the like.

Poor air conditioning performance could be due to insufficient refrigeration or improper blending or delivery. I'll assume the discharge air exits the correct registers at the proper volume and simply isn't cold enough. A check of evaporator temperature and system pressures would verify proper compressor function, orifice tube operation and pressure cycling switch values. Proper cooling of the condenser in front of the radiator is really important — it must be free of debris and enjoy proper fan operation. Your Escape uses an old-school cable-operated temperature blend door. A check might be made to ensure it is properly adjusted, so heat isn't accidentally blended in with your cold air. The recirculation door can also be checked for proper function; it's used during Max A/C mode to recycle already-cooled inside air, rather than bringing in hot outside air.

Brad Bergholdt is an automotive technology instructor at Evergreen Valley College in San Jose, Calif. Readers may send him email at under-the-hood@earthlink.net; he cannot make personal replies.

How to handle a low-miles lease

By PAUL BRAND
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

QUESTION: I leased a new Scion xD for 36 months, and the lease ends in November. The value of the vehicle at the beginning of the lease was listed as $16,700. The purchase option at the end of the lease is $10,296. My problem is that I currently have just 10,840 miles on the car and don't see any big trips in the future. Is there such a thing as a rebate on unused mileage? What are my options?

ANSWER: How about a round-trip vacation this summer? Alaska to California to Florida to Maine and home. A nice long summer vacation drive would use up some of those miles, but you'd still have miles to spare on the lease.

I'm not aware of any mileage rebates on unused lease miles for passenger cars, but you do have several viable options. My son Ryan, who sells cars at a Chrysler dealership, suggests that you call the leasing company to confirm the precise purchase option price. Then stop by a new-car dealership and ask them to appraise the vehicle to determine how much equity you have at this point. If you have positive equity in the vehicle—meaning it's worth more than the lease purchase price because of the low mileage—you could either sell or trade it to a new car dealer.

So, your options are to turn the vehicle in at the end of the lease, purchase the vehicle from the leasing company and keep it or sell it to a private party, or sell or trade the vehicle at a dealership. Compare your options and then make your decision. Buying and keeping the car would be the simplest answer, but the selling or trading at a dealership might make the most economic sense.

■ ■ ■

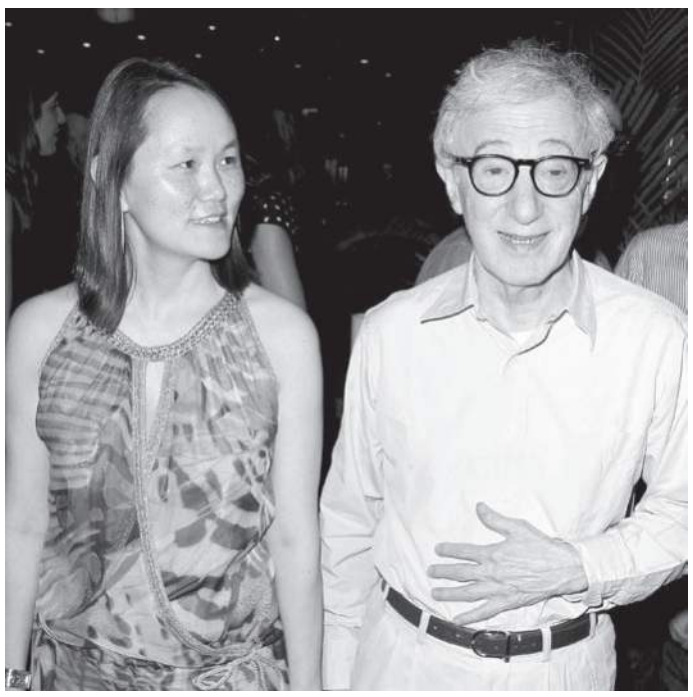
Q: My boyfriend needs help with electrical issues on his 2006 Cadillac CTS. When he turned on the wipers, he lost the turn signals, hazards, headlight control and trunk release. Sometimes there is a "hood open" warning as well as a "door open" warning—but they are not open.

A: Electrical gremlins can be very difficult to pinpoint. In this case, start with a scan tool to identify any fault codes and then focus on the connections and grounds for those components, systems and modules involved. "Fretting" is a form of corrosion that appears like dark smudges or spots on the individual pins, and it can cause intermittent connections in connectors and terminals. Disassemble suspect connectors to clean and treat with dielectric grease to reseal the connection.

Paul Brand, author of How to Repair Your Car, is an automotive troubleshooter, driving instructor and former race-car driver. Readers may write to him at: Star Tribune, 425 Portland Ave. S., Minneapolis, Minn. 55488 or via email at paulbrand@startribune.com. Please explain the problem in detail and include a daytime phone number. Because of the volume of mail, we cannot provide personal replies.

Life & Style

A conversation with Woody Allen



AP

This June 20, 2012 photo released by Starpix, director Woody Allen and his wife Soon-Yi Previn attend the premiere after party for his film "To Rome with Love," in New York.

By JAKE COYLE
AP ENTERTAINMENT WRITER

NEW YORK (AP)—On a sweltering Manhattan day, it's hard not to think of Woody Allen's old line about preferring air conditioning to the Pope.

Allen's Park Avenue office and screening room are a cool sanctuary, far off the Manhattan street and away from the heat. Asked if he was looking forward to the New York premiere that evening of his latest film, "To Rome With Love," he answers "No" with comical quickness.

Depending on how you count, "To Rome With Love" is the 76-year-old filmmaker's 45th film, a total he's amassed by making, with remarkable consistency, a film a year. It's also his eighth film made in self-imposed exile, traversing European capitals.

His last movie, the Oscar-nominated "Midnight in Paris," was his biggest box-office hit ever, a success Allen greets only with a shrug.

"To Rome With Love"—as much of a European postcard as Allen has made—is an ensemble farce about numerous characters (Alec Baldwin, Jesse Eisenberg, Penelope Cruz, Roberto Benigni, Ellen Page) chasing conflicting desires in the Eternal City.

The film, which opened Friday in New York and Los Angeles, hasn't received very good reviews, but Allen is already onto his next film, with plans to begin shooting a movie in August—again starring Baldwin—that will take him back to New York and also to San Francisco.

Allen chatted with The Associated Press about filmmaking Woody's way:

AP: You've often described filmmaking as a constant process of disappointment in not realizing your initial idea. So what keeps you trying?

Allen: You always think that you're going to do better the next time. It's deceptive. Sometimes you do better than the last time, sometimes you don't. It's like a gambler. You're constantly thinking, 'This next one, I'm going to really nail it. Everything's going to be perfect.' And you do it, and of course it's far from perfect.

AP: What was your initial concept for "To Rome With Love"?

Allen: The people in Rome who distribute my films (Medusa Film) always kept saying, "Come to Rome and make a film." Finally, they really got serious. Then I was faced with having to write something for Rome.

AP: Did you ever think that you'd be part filmmaker and part travel guide?

Allen: No, I never wanted to or expected to make a film outside of New York. New York became very, very expensive. The same $18 million spent in Barcelona or Rome goes much further there. I've had six other offers since then. ... I don't know if I could do that indefinitely.

AP: Your earlier films seemed to be more searching and questioning.

Allen: You can see them as searching, but you would find that after time, the conclusions are grim. No matter what kind of sugarcoating people put on it—whether it's a religious sugarcoating or a philosophical sugarcoating—no matter what they tell you, the facts are grisly.

AP: So what, then, is the point of art or a movie? Some look for enlightenment when they open a book or go to a movie.

Allen: The answer to your question, I think, on both sides of the camera or the novel: Distraction. I'm obsessed with: Can I get this actress or my third act to work? I'm distracted. I'm interested in that so I don't sit home and think, "Gee, life is meaningless. We're all going to die. The universe is pulling apart at breakneck speed." So I'm distracted with relatively solvable trivia.

AP: Have you ever felt you accomplished the film you set out to make at the start?

Allen: A couple times I've felt, "Gee, I've come very close to my original concept here and this is nothing to be ashamed of." ... For me, the trick is to execute my original intention. The audience may wind up hating my original intention. And it may be that when I prostitute the film and don't live up to the original intention—let's say like "Hannah and Her Sisters"—it's a big success, and a bigger success than if I had achieved my original idea. There's no correlation between what the public likes and what I'm after. I'm in a different world.

AP: How did you want "Hannah and Her Sisters" to be different?

Allen: It was much darker. I softened it a lot, and then people liked it. But I didn't. It was too neatly tied up.

AP: You were also dissatisfied with "Manhattan," which is among your most beloved films.

Allen: When I saw it, I was not crazy about it. To this day, I have memories of it as being disappointing to me. I'm not saying it wasn't beautifully filmed—it was Gordon Willis, shot in black in white—and the people were good. But the writing was too preachy, too self-righteous. That's one of the reasons I thought "Match Point" was a good film, because it wasn't preachy or self-righteous. It just was what it was.

AP: At the end of "Manhattan," your character listed the things that make life worthwhile, including Willie Mays, Louis Armstrong's "Potato Head Blues," Flaubert's "Sentimental Education," Frank Sinatra, Marlon Brando, Groucho Marx and the crabs at Sam Wo's. If you updated that list, what would you add?

Allen: I made one big mistake on that list and I would change it today. I got a letter from a lady that said: "You named all the things that made life worth living, but you didn't name your child." I had a child with Meryl Streep in the movie. At the time, I had no children in my life, and I figured, "Eh, she's nuts," and I threw it away. Now that I have children, I realize what an egregious blunder that was and how short sighted I was. That would be the leading thing on the list.

Death & Funeral Announcement

Manuel Quitugua Tenorio Jr.

a.k.a "Manny"

Born to life on November 29, 1977
Called to his eternal rest on June 20, 2012

He now joins in his new life

†Maternal Grandparents:
Daniel Rios Quitugua & Maria Toves Quitugua

†Paternal Grandparents:
Miguel Pangelinan Tenorio ("Tang Ge") & Antonina Camacho Tenorio

†Stepfather:
Jose Elamparo Echaluse ("Jun")

†Uncle, Cousins & Nieces:
Antonio Toves Quitugua
Winifreda & David Aguon
Jimmy Marquez
Benedicto Lizama Jr.
Jesse T. Aguon
Yonalyn T. Cabrera
Franica Santos
Maria Perpetual Q. Terlaje

He is survived by
MOTHER: Patricia Quitugua Echaluse
FATHER: Manuel Camacho Tenorio (Elphidia)

Common-Law Wife: Neischangpi Susan Satur

Brothers & Sisters:
Luticia Ramona Q. & Joseph Bowie (Deeva)
Antonnette T. & Lucas L. Laniyo (Nipighiyong)
SiAna Lynn E. & Peter Jeffrey S. Camacho
Mark Dainel Q. & Vida B. Echaluse (Ruleiyna, Rieyanna & Vittoria)
Jonathan T. Tenorio
Jemalyn T. Tenorio
Doming Q. Dela Cruz (Tyler)
Brittney DLC & Thomas Yoon (Tyrone & Leina)
Roal & Cecille Evangelista (Rocelle, Ashton, Roal Chester)

In-Laws:
Parents: Antonio & Susan Satur
Brothers & Sisters:
Martha Leisalyang & Ignacio Yiftheg (Ernesta, Prufilio, Isabella)
Ann Marie Neteleschigh Satur & Mylo Lassiter

Maternal Aunts & Uncles:
Nora A. Quitugua, Susana Q. & Kelly Lizama, Ana Q. & Benedicto Lizama, Agnes Q. & Antonio Cabrera, Elizabeth Q. & Jose Terlaje, Joaquin T. & Bea S. Quitugua, David T. Quitugua, Alicia T. Quitugua, Jovita T. Quitugua & Leonardo Cabrera, Agida Quitugua & Luis Hocog, Daniel Jr. & Ruth DLG Quitugua, Barbara Q. & David Sablan, Addy T. Quitugua & Kemmy Evangelista.

Paternal Aunts & Uncles:
Margarita C. Tenorio, Rosalina C. Tenorio, Magdalena T. & Joe Barbour, Lorenzo C. & Margarita B. Tenorio, Isabel T. & Jose Rabago, Susana C. Tenorio, Vicente C. & Georgia Tenorio, Patricia T. & Eliseo Castro, Joseph C. & Elma Tenorio, Edward C. & Gloria Tenorio.

Also survived by numerous cousins, nieces, nephews and godchildren.

*Nightly Rosaries are being held at the Tenorio Residence ("Tang Ge") in San Roque (behind San Roque Church) at 8:00pm. On June 28, 2012 Thursday public viewing will begin at 8:30am at the Tenorio's residence in San Roque.
Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 2:00pm at San Roque Church followed by the burial at San Roque Cemetery.

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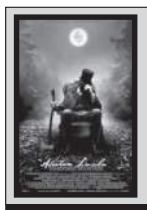
Brave

Friday and Saturday	1:10	4:10	7:10	9:55
Sunday thru Thursday	1:10	4:10	7:10	

Kelly MacDonald, Emma Thompson
Musical • Rated PG

Synopsis

An impetuous princess discovers that her reckless choice has put both her family and her father's kingdom in peril in this animated adventure from Pixar films. Merida may be the daughter of royalty, but all she wants out of life is to become a truly great archer. When Merida and her mother clash over the willful girl's future, the decisions she makes have greater repercussions that she ever imagined. Now, in order to save her mother's life and bring peace back to the Highlands, Merida will have to face off against the forces of nature and contend with an ancient curse.



Abraham Lincoln: Vampire Hunter

Friday and Saturday	1:00	4:00	7:00	9:50
Sunday thru Thursday	1:00	4:00	7:00	

Benjamin Walker, Mary Elizabeth Winstead
Fantasy, Action • Rated R

Synopsis

Abraham Lincoln is reinvented as a vampire-killing President in this Timur Bekmambetov-directed action picture. Pride and Prejudice and Zombies' author Seth Grahame-Smith adapts his own book for 20th Century Fox.

★ ★ ★

Rock of Ages

Friday and Saturday	1:25	4:25	7:25	10:05
Sunday thru Thursday	1:25	4:25	7:25	

Tom Cruise, Diego Boneta, Russell Brand
Musical • Rated PG 13

Madagascar 3: Europe's Most Wanted

Friday and Saturday	1:15	4:15	7:15	9:30
Sunday thru Thursday	1:15	4:15	7:15	

Ben Stiller, Chris Rock, David Schwimmer
Children's/family • Rated PG

Prometheus

Friday and Saturday	1:30	4:30	7:30	10:00
Sunday thru Thursday	1:30	4:30	7:30	

Noomi Rapace, Michael Fassbender
Science Fiction • Rated R

Snow White and The Huntsman

Friday and Saturday	1:05	4:05	7:05	9:35
Sunday thru Thursday	1:05	4:05	7:05	

Kristen Stewart, Chris Hemsworth
Fantasy • Rated PG 13

Men In Black 3

Friday and Saturday	1:20	4:20	7:20	9:45
Sunday thru Thursday	1:20	4:20	7:20	

Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones
Comedy • Rated PG 13

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Flynn's 'Gone Girl' poised to be summer thriller

AP

This June 19, 2012 photo shows Gillian Flynn, author of "Gone Girl" in Chicago.

CHICAGO (AP)—Gillian Flynn's third novel, "Gone Girl," is the perfect beach read—boy meets girl, boy marries girl, girl goes missing on their fifth wedding anniversary.

The boy is Nick, who grew up in a Mississippi River town in Missouri and became a magazine writer in New York, where he meets the blonde, beautiful and bright Amy. The mystery unfolds in dueling chapters, one from Nick's point of view, then one from Amy.

"I liked playing with the idea of marriage as a `he said, she said' story," said Flynn, a Chicagoan and mother of a 2-year-old boy with her own equally compelling story—girl loses job, girl becomes best-selling novelist.

"Gone Girl" entered The New York Times bestseller hardcover fiction list at No. 2 for the week of June 24 and earned a top-10 spot on Amazon's Top 100 list.

Critics love it, too. People magazine gave it four stars and Publishers Weekly called it "compulsively readable, creepily unforgettable." It is crime fiction that will make readers flip to the first page after they've finished the last page, looking for clues and hints they missed.

Flynn, 41, grew up in Kansas City, Mo., the daughter of two community college professors. Her 2006 debut was the mystery "Sharp Objects" and her follow-up was 2009's "Dark Places." She said she wrote her first two books on evenings and weekends while working as a journalist.

Flynn was laid off from her job as a writer and TV critic at Entertainment Weekly after she finished "Dark Places," but before the novel came out. Losing her job allowed her the chance to turn full-time novelist. It also provided inspiration for Nick in "Gone Girl". He loses his magazine writing job, too.

"I certainly wove that experience, that sense of having something that you were going to do for the rest of your life and seeing that possibility taken away... I definitely wove that sense of unrest and nervousness into Nick's character," she said.

Even though she was finding success as a novelist, Flynn said she would have kept her magazine job if she could.

"I don't know if I had it in my mind that I would do the novel thing solo. I'm a very pragmatic Midwesterner. I liked the idea of having a day job," she said. "It took me a while, that (writing) is my day job and it's going to be OK."

Flynn's writing focuses on women—unusual, troubled women in difficult situations, said Barbara Peters, owner of The Poisoned Pen bookstore in Scottsdale, Ariz., where Flynn recently gave a talk on "Gone Girl."

"Even though they're damaged they're all strong women and that has a lot of appeal," Peters said.

Flynn thinks the appeal comes from giving readers a sneak-peek into someone else's marriage: the tugs of war, power plays and gender roles. Flynn also was ready to write a mystery from inside a relationship after two novels that she describes as exploring "loneliness and isolation."

"I wanted to kind of play with the opposite of that, which is what happens when you choose to combine lives with someone. The good things that are possible and the bad things that are possible," Flynn said.

The book's subject matter didn't make Flynn's husband flinch, she said. "It takes a big guy if your wife comes and says, `I'm going to poke and pry around the darkest side of marriage for my next book. Is that cool?'" Flynn said. "He didn't blink an eye. He said, `Go for it. Don't censor yourself. Put everything down.'"

Her novel also tells the story of now: Characters are dealing with the aftermath of a recession. There are abandoned shopping malls, empty foreclosed homes and workers who have lost their jobs.

"I wanted the whole thing to feel bankrupt," Flynn said. "I wanted it to really feel like a marriage that had been hollowed out in a city that had been hollowed out and a country that was increasingly hollowed out."

The result, Peters said, is a novel that shows Flynn is more concerned with the "why" of the crime rather than the "how" of the crime.

"There's a real propulsion, the way she tell that story," Peters said. "You want to read it right through the end to see what's going on."

Disney's 'Brave' shows mettle with $66.7M debut

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A new Disney princess has ascended to the box-office throne with a No. 1 debut for Pixar Animation's "Brave."

The latest from the makers of "WALL-E," "Finding Nemo" and the "Toy Story" movies opened with $66.7 million domestically, according to studio estimates Sunday. "Brave" added $13.5 million in 10 overseas markets for a worldwide start of $80.2 million.

Featuring a feisty Scottish princess, "Brave" was the first of Disney's Pixar animations with a female protagonist. And it left American hero Abraham Lincoln in the dust.

The 20th Century Fox action tale "Abraham Lincoln: Vampire Hunter" opened far back at No. 3 with $16.5 million, behind "Madagascar 3: Europe's Most Wanted."

DreamWorks Animation's animated "Madagascar" sequel had been No. 1 for two weekends and added $20.2 million to raise its domestic total to $157.6 million.

"Brave" is the 13th-straight Pixar release to open at No. 1 since "Toy Story" launched Hollywood's age of computer animation in 1995.

"Their track record is just unbelievable," said Paul Dergarabedian, analyst for box-office tracker Hollywood.com. "The Pixar brand just carries so much weight with the audience, it doesn't matter almost what the story is about if it has the Pixar name."

The weekend's other new wide release, Steve Carell and Keira Knightley's apocalyptic romance "Seeking a Friend for the End of the World," misfired with just $3.8 million, debuting at No. 10.

The Focus Features film, playing in much narrower release than other top-10 movies, stars Carell and Knightley as heartbroken neighbors on a road trip as a killer asteroid hurtles toward Earth.

1. **"Brave,"** $66.7 million ($13.5 million international).
2. **"Madagascar 3: Europe's Most Wanted,"** $20.2 million ($30.1 million international).
3. **"Abraham Lincoln: Vampire Hunter,"** $16.5 million ($8.1 million international).
4. **"Prometheus,"** $10 million ($12.7 million international).
5. **"Snow White & the Huntsman,"** $8.01 million ($22.6 million international).
6. **"Rock of Ages,"** $8 million ($2.9 million international).
7. **"That's My Boy,"** $7.9 million ($900,000 international).
8. **"The Avengers,"** $7 million ($2.3 million international).
9. **"Men in Black 3,"** $5.6 million ($10.5 million international).
10. **"Seeking a Friend for the End of the World,"** $3.8 million.

Woody Allen's Italian romance "To Rome with Love" pulled in huge audiences in limited release, debuting with $379,371 in five theaters. That gave the Sony Pictures Classics release a whopping average of $75,874 a theater, compared to $16,028 in 4,164 cinemas for "Brave."

"Brave" features a voice cast led by Kelly Macdonald and Emma Thompson in a mother-daughter story of a young Scottish princess defying tradition that requires her to marry against her will.

Estimated ticket sales were for Friday through Sunday at U.S. and Canadian theaters, according to Hollywood.com. Where available, latest international numbers are also included. Final domestic figures will be released Monday.

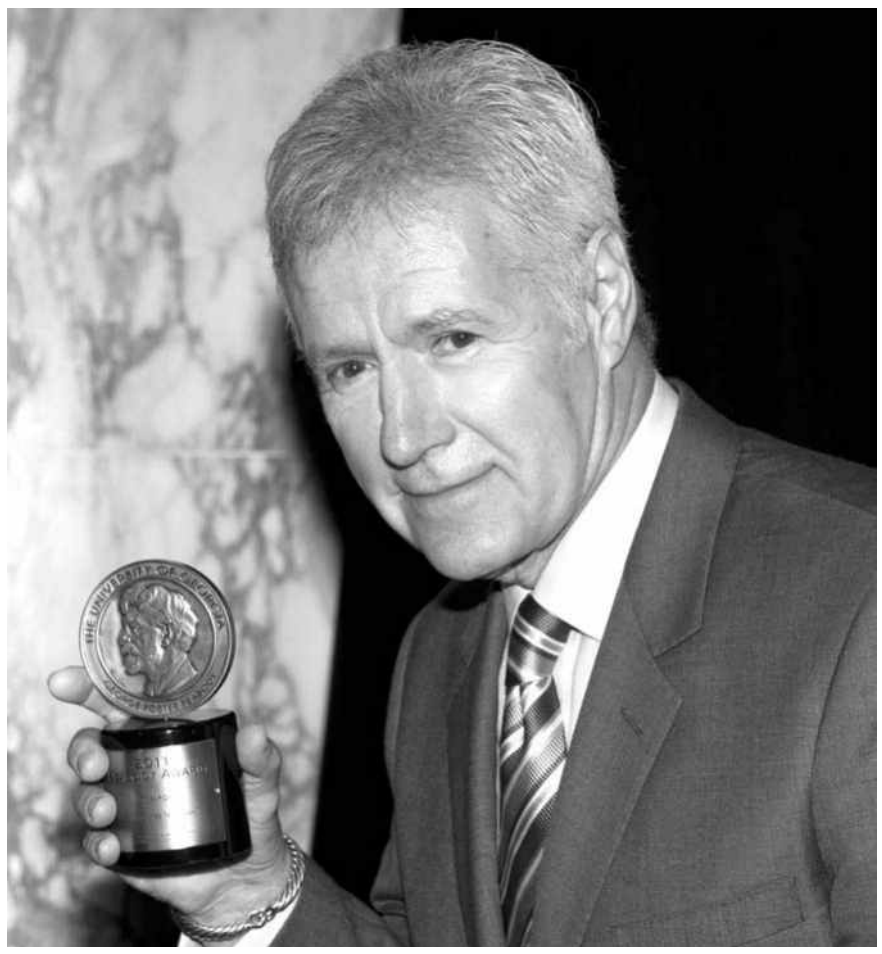
'Jeopardy!' host Trebek suffers mild heart attack

NEW YORK (AP)—"Jeopardy!" host Alex Trebek is in a Los Angeles hospital recovering from a mild heart attack.

Sony Television spokeswoman Paula Askanas said Sunday that Trebek was admitted to Cedars-Sinai Medical Center on Saturday. She says the 71-year-old Trebek is expected to fully recover and be back giving answers when "Jeopardy!" resumes production on a new season in July.

While he was in the hospital on Saturday, "Jeopardy!" won a Daytime Emmy award for best game show.

Trebek has been hosting "Jeopardy!" for 28 years.



AP

In this May 21, 2012, file photo, honoree Alex Trebek, host of the game show "Jeopardy" holds a 71st Annual Peabody Awards in New York.

Baby girl for Lily Aldridge, Caleb Followill

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)—Victoria's Secret model Lily Aldridge and Kings of Leon frontman Caleb Followill are the new parents of a baby girl.

The couple welcomed Dixie Pearl Followill on Thursday morning at Vanderbilt University Medical Center in Nashville, Tenn.

Spokesman Ken Weinstein says both Aldridge and the baby are happy and healthy and are resting at their home outside of Nashville. Dixie Pearl was born at 1 a.m., weighing in at 7 pounds, 11 ounces.

Aldridge, 26, and Followill, 30, married in California in May 2011. Dixie Pearl is their first child.

AP

This Feb. 9, 2012 file photo shows musician Caleb Followill, left, and his wife, model Lily Aldridge at the premiere of the third season of "Eastbound and Down" in Los Angeles.

Music mogul Rosemond indicted on NY murder charge

NEW YORK (AP)—Hip-hop mogul James Rosemond has been indicted in New York on a murder-for-hire charge.

Prosecutors brought the revised indictment Friday accusing Rosemond of ordering others to kill a man in the Bronx in 2009 as payback for an assault on his 14-year-old son.

The 47-year-old chief executive of New York-based Czar Entertainment is already imprisoned. He was recently convicted in federal court in Brooklyn on drug trafficking charges.

Rosemond's lawyer did not immediately return a message seeking comment.

He is behind such hits as Salt-N-Pepa's "Shoop."

Hudson, Mirren, others to get Walk of Fame stars

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Helen Mirren, Jennifer Hudson, James Franco and the Backstreet Boys are among the famous folks getting stars on Hollywood's Walk of Fame in 2013.

Actress Marg Helgenberger and the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce announced the new 24 inductees Friday at a press conference on Hollywood Boulevard's star-lined sidewalk.

A committee selects celebrities eligible for a star and those who accept pay $30,000 in costs and fees.

Other entertainers slated for a star next year are Javier Bardem, Viola Davis, Simon Baker, Bryan Cranston, Jane Lynch, Katey Segal, Matthew Perry, Ellen DeGeneres and Olympia Dukakis; performers Penn & Teller; makeup artist Rick Baker; filmmaker Ron Howard; radio personalities Steve Harvey and "Shotgun" Tom Kelly; and musicians Jane's Addiction, New Kids on the Block, Janis Joplin, Usher, Thalia and Luther Vandross.

'Roseanne' star Laurie Metcalf heads to Broadway

NEW YORK (AP)—Laurie Metcalf will be heading back to Broadway in the thriller "The Other Place."

Metcalf

Manhattan Theatre Club announced Thursday that it will produce Sharr White's play, which had its world premiere off-Broadway last year at MCC Theater. Previews will begin Dec. 11 at the Samuel J. Friedman Theatre and opening night is set for Jan. 10.

Metcalf, an original member of Chicago's Steppenwolf Theater, will reprise her role as a brilliant researcher stopped short by an unnamed neurological disease and the unraveling of her family. Tony Award winner Joe Mantello will direct, as he did at MCC.

Metcalf is currently in "Long Day's Journey into Night" in London's West End. Her other Broadway roles include "Brighton Beach Memoirs" and "November" opposite Nathan Lane.

She won three Emmy Awards for her role as Jackie Harris on "Roseanne" and her films include "Internal Affairs" and "Uncle Buck." Metcalf won an Obie Award and a Lucille Lortel Award last year for her work on "The Other Place."

Manhattan Theatre Club also revealed another production it will mount next summer off-Broadway—the comedy "The Explorers Club" by Nell Benjamin, who wrote "Legally Blonde."

It should be about the book when serious readers meet

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: "Pennsville, N.J., Reader" (May 15) complained that her book club members don't always read their current book and want to socialize instead. I can add nothing to your thoughtful answer. Still, her letter troubles me.

As you know, literacy is under siege in America, and many people can't follow the directions on a box of cake mix. Years ago, I heard Margaret Mead speak. She warned us against turning into a "machine-worshipping society," and that is precisely what we have become. It's killing off a part of our brains. We are wired to electronic messaging most of the time, at our peril. Reading serious books helps to reclaim our brains.

Each member of my group has a voice in selecting the book. Most of us do read the monthly selection, and the moderator — friendly but firm—keeps us on track with our discussions. No one ventures too far afield, ever. If someone comes to the meeting and hasn't read the selection, she simply listens and takes notes while the others discuss the designated chapters.

I feel strongly that if anyone wants to socialize instead, he/she should arrange and host their own meetings at home and make it clear that the gathering is a social chat.

BOOK CLUB MEMBER IN NEW YORK

DEAR BOOK CLUB MEMBER: Readers agree that the reading and socializing should be kept separate and were quick to offer solutions to the problem of mixing the two. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: For years, I have led three book groups in three different states. Our monthly meetings are two hours long; the discussions are 60 to 90 minutes. Socializing comes afterward. We choose books by ballot, voting from a list submitted by members. Each member leads discussions on a rotating basis of a book that particularly piques their interest.

If the non-readers of the group mentioned in the letter (who should not be attending a book group just to socialize) were discussion leaders, they WOULD read the book. If they choose to attend without reading, they should remain quiet during the discussion and wait to socialize later. Give those lazy nonreaders a task!

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS IN SOUTH DAKOTA

DEAR ABBY: I have discovered the joy of audio books. Most of them are classics long out of copyright, but classics are classics because they are GOOD. My local library has a way to access current books by best-selling authors. I get all of these treasures on my cellphone and listen to them no matter where I am or what I'm doing.

Being "too busy" is no longer an excuse for not being well-read. I'll bet the women in that club would get with the program if they were introduced to audio books.

WIRED BOOKWORM, STILLWATER, OKLA.

DEAR ABBY: Here's how our club handled the problem of members not reading the books: We started charging $5 for failure to do it. The money is held by our unofficial treasurer, and every summer it is used to pay for meals during our yearly summer outing. It's a simple system that has cut down on people not doing the assigned reading.

BOOK-CLUBBER, TOO

DEAR ABBY: Our group has every member take a turn to host for a month. The leader chooses the book we read and leads the discussion. Once this plan was adopted, several people dropped out. But we have now grown to 18 members and have a waiting list, so we must be doing something right. Sure, there will be books not everyone cares for, but variety is what a book group is all about.

Socializing is fun, but being a member of a book group is about READING.

LYNN IN LILBURN, GA

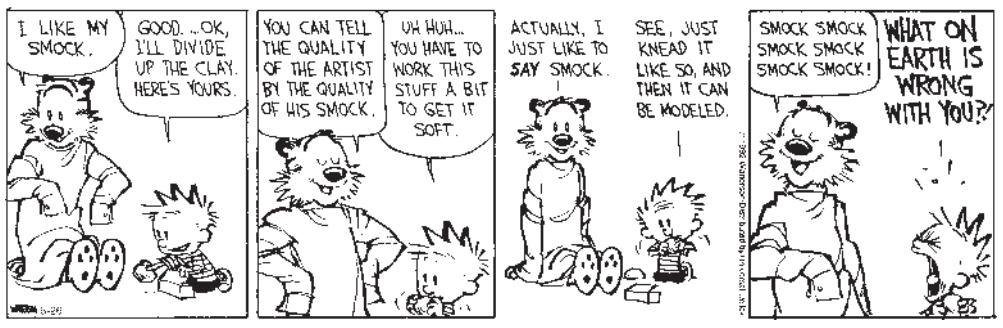
■■■

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Pastimes

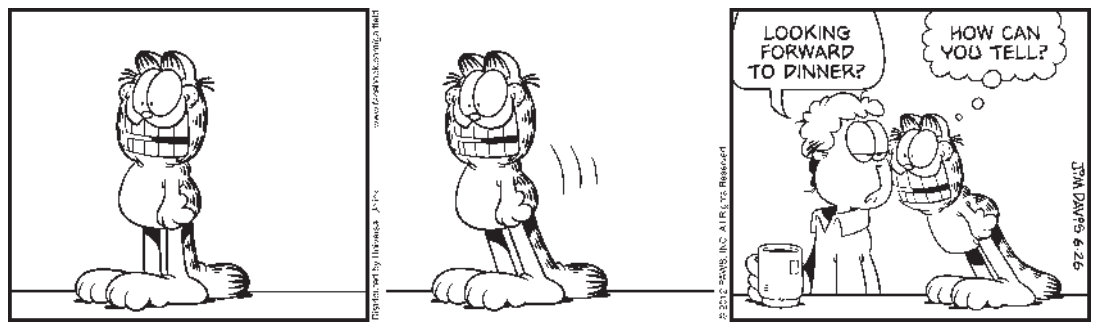
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


I LIKE MY SMOCK.
GOOD. ..OK, I'LL DIVIDE UP THE CLAY. HERE'S YOURS.
YOU CAN TELL THE QUALITY OF THE ARTIST BY THE QUALITY OF HIS SMOCK.
UH HUH... YOU HAVE TO WORK THIS STUFF A BIT TO GET IT SOFT.
ACTUALLY, I JUST LIKE TO SAY SMOCK.
SEE, JUST KNEAD IT LIKE SO, AND THEN IT CAN BE MODELED.
SMOCK SMOCK SMOCK SMOCK SMOCK!
WHAT ON EARTH IS WRONG WITH YOU?

Garfield®

By Jim Davis



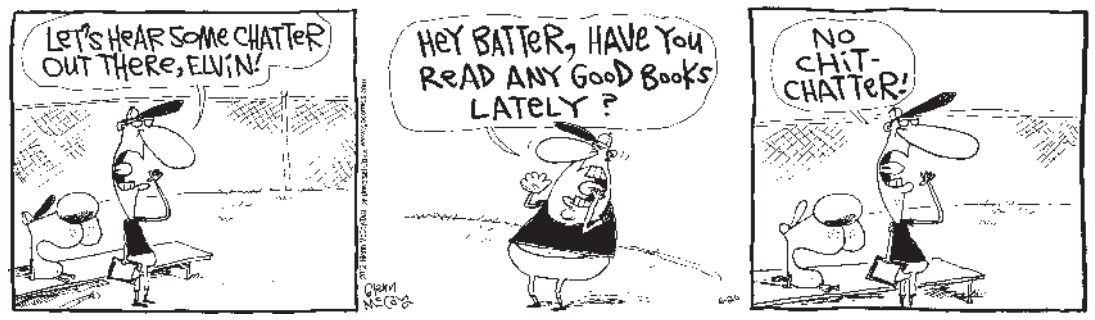
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

OKAY, SON. IT'S TIME FOR A NEW FAMILY RITUAL: THE SUMMERTIME BASEMENT PURGE.
WHAT'S "PURGE" MEAN?
"CAUSE THE EVACUATION OF... MAKE FREE OF SOMETHING UNWANTED... GET RID OF..."
WOW. HOW DID YOU KNOW ALL THAT?
YOUR MOTHER WROTE IT ALL DOWN AS A REMINDER.

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

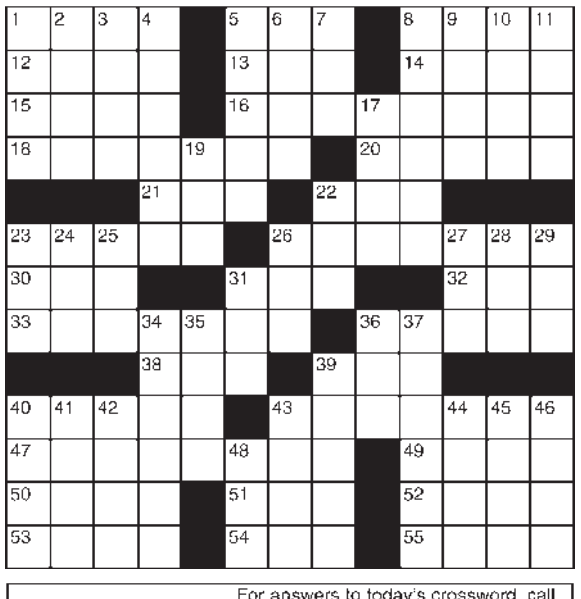
ACROSS
1 "Mona —"
5 Line
8 Denomination
12 Listending abbr.
13 I love, to Caesar
14 Lotion additive
15 Beige
16 City in Japan
18 Bottle in a salon
20 Discussion group
21 Diarist Anais
22 Scull need
23 Edgar who painted ballerinas
26 Nassau's nation
30 Raw rock
31 Cudgel
32 Portion of N.A.
33 Pet rodent, often
36 Potentially will
38 Joker
39 Dine
40 Firststringers
43 "The Pelican Brief" author
47 Winner
49 Facility
50 Rainout cover
51 Sapporo sash
52 Legal claim
53 Transgressions
54 Work with
55 Herr's wife

DOWN
1 Dregs
2 Need to scratch
3 Gilbert of "The Talk"
4 Wellesley grad
5 Silky material
6 Melville novel
7 Stir-fry pan
8 Vast sandy expanse
9 Verve
10 Show up
11 Blue shade
17 Colorful fish
19 Greek consonants
22 Feedbag morsel
23 Homer's interjection
24 Historic period
25 Jewel
26 Prohibit
27 Oktoberfest souvenir
28 Fire residue
29 Perched
31 Plead
34 Marshy tracts
35 Pack down
36 — tai (cocktail)
37 "... is fear —"
39 "Sesame Street" Muppet
40 Performances
41 Siamese
42 Deserve
43 Sailors
44 Locks
45 Cruising
46 Carte
48 Chit

Solution time: 21 mins.

J	O	W	L	■	G	A	L	■	C	A	D	S
A	H	E	A	■	Y	M	A	■	O	M	I	I
M	E	L	T	■	M	A	D	M	O	N	E	Y
B	O	L	E	Y	N	■	D	E	L	E	T	E
■	■	■	S	E	A	S	■	T	I	S	■	■
B	A	D	T	A	S	T	E	■	T	I	E	R
O	L	E	■	S	T	O	N	E	■	A	L	E
P	I	C	S	■	S	A	D	S	A	C	K	S
■	■	R	A	P	■	T	O	A	D	■	■	■
O	P	E	N	E	R	■	R	U	D	D	E	R
G	L	A	D	R	A	G	S	■	I	O	T	A
L	O	S	E	■	V	I	E	■	C	L	A	P
E	W	E	R	■	E	N	D	■	T	E	S	T

Yesterday's answer 6-26



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Jason Schwartzman, 32; Derek Jeter, 38; Sean Hayes, 42; Chris O'Donnell, 42.

Happy Birthday: Think outside the box. Try new methods and explore new interests. Make alterations to the way you live and how you approach health, wealth and personal goals. Preparation will be key to reaching your destination, and approaching people who can help you along the way will be crucial. Let your creative skills shine. Your numbers are 4, 17, 20, 26, 31, 40, 43.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): A challenge will test your skills and stimulate you mentally and physically. Don't parade your accomplishments. Use your imagination, but don't make unrealistic claims. Love is highlighted, and social plans should include people from your past. ✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Don't discuss your plans. Not everyone will have the same agenda as you. In order to follow your own path, you are best to go it alone. Keep it simple and don't make a big deal if you want to avoid interference. ✪✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Offer to do what you do best, nothing more. You don't want to be taken for granted. Family discussions and money matters can be resolved if you are prepared to budget and compromise. Don't let someone's jealousy push you in the wrong direction. ✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Turn your home into a drop-in center. The information you gather from the people who visit your domain will encourage you to branch out into new and exciting directions. A past partner or idea will help you move forward. ✪✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): You'll charm your way around any situation you face. Interact with people you can help and whom can help you in return. Mastermind an idea and you will entice others to get involved. Don't put up with unfair or pushy people. ✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Work alone to get things done. Interference is likely if you are too vocal about your plans. A new idea can turn into a prosperous venture if you use technology or new methods to speed up the process. ✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Opportunity is apparent. Traveling or communicating with experts will contribute to your plans. Don't allow laziness to stop you from getting ahead. Look at different lifestyles, cultures or philosophies to spark ideas. Love is highlighted. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Expect difficulties when dealing with institutions, authority figures or those who come from a different background. Listen attentively, but don't divulge your thoughts or your intentions. Stick to what you know and finish what you start. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Luck is with you, and there is plenty you can accomplish if you are upfront about what you want. Concentrate on finances, contracts and partnerships. Focus on something that is in demand. Forward thinking will bring results. ✪✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Protect your interests, your money and your emotional health. A realistic approach to work and how you deal with people you encounter will determine future prospects. Avoid anyone who embraces a lifestyle that isn't in line with your goals. ✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): A strict budget will help your money work for you rather than against you. A chance to lower your overhead or make your personal living space more affordable is apparent. A change in lifestyle or living arrangements will bring good results. ✪✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Problems with friends, relatives or neighbors will cause you to rethink your next move. Don't argue when the only recourse is to walk away. Take on a hobby or pick up a skill that will ease your stress and bring financial gains. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are insightful, emotional and charming. You are adaptable and practical.

Eugenia's Web sites: ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations,* ***myspace.com/eugenialast*** *for Eugenia's blog,* ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

3			7		6			2
		5		8		1		
4	1						7	6
8				6				9
	3						6	
1				4				8
6	8						2	5
		3		5		4		
9			4		8			7

Difficulty Level ★★ 6/26

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

1	9	4	7	8	6	5	3	2
7	6	3	4	2	5	8	1	9
2	5	8	3	1	9	4	6	7
9	2	6	1	4	7	3	8	5
4	8	5	2	9	3	6	7	1
3	1	7	5	6	8	9	2	4
8	7	9	6	5	1	2	4	3
5	3	2	8	7	4	1	9	6
6	4	1	9	3	2	7	5	8

Difficulty Level ★ 6/25

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

ROBIN GIBB (1949-2012) Solution: 10 letters

S	G	Y	B	G	L	N	T	S	P	E	N	C	E	R
T	U	D	B	A	N	E	Y	W	R	I	T	E	R	E
A	I	N	I	E	R	I	S	L	I	V	I	N	G	G
Y	T	A	G	S	E	B	L	L	E	N	O	L	A	N
I	A	S	J	Ⓛ	C	G	A	R	E	V	E	F	I	I
N	R	S	M	Ⓞ	A	O	E	R	A	Y	E	Y	E	S
A	A	I	E	Ⓥ	R	S	L	E	A	D	I	A	R	Y
L	N	L	I	Ⓔ	P	O	S	I	S	L	A	N	D	S
I	I	E	U	H	I	M	B	E	M	B	R	A	C	E
V	W	M	Q	G	A	E	T	I	S	V	O	E	I	D
E	D	T	E	U	N	B	O	B	N	L	A	L	N	A
G	A	K	R	H	O	O	Y	A	O	I	R	T	A	R
A	N	I	W	O	R	D	S	S	W	I	G	I	T	A
N	C	B	A	R	R	Y	S	S	A	L	C	H	I	H
E	E	M	O	T	I	O	N	F	O	O	L	N	T	C

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Alone, Andy, Barbara, Barry, Bass, Bee Gees, Charade, Class, Dance, Darling, Diary, Disco, Dwina, Embrace, Emotion, Evelyn, Eyes, Fair, Fever, Fool, Guitar, Hugh, Islands, Lead, Lesley, Living, Love, Maurice, Melissa, Night, Piano, Requiem, Robin, Singer, Snow, Solo, Somebody, Spencer, Stayin' Alive, Sunglasses, Titanic, Toys, Trio, Twin, Vegan, Words, Writer

Yesterday's Answer: Fresh Cut

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FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Ocean View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/ A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Nightime security. $600/mo. Call 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

Sunset View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/ A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Nightime security. $550. Call 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Lower Navy Hill Apts. Newly renovated bldg., 3BR & 2BTH. Rooms w/ A/C & fully furnished. Back-up generator. Free Wi-Fi, EPA Solar Water Heater. Laundry area. Nightime security. $450/mo. Call 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

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(1) Marine Boat Carpenter

Must have 5 years experience
Salary based on experience

Please email resume to
wts_plee@yahoo.com

IMMEDIATE HIRING

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DBA: SUCCESS AUTO REPAIR SHOP
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(1) BODY REPAIRMAN / WELDER
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Ross homers twice in Boston's 9-4 win over Braves

BOSTON (AP)— Kevin Youkilis said farewell at Fenway Park on Sunday in Boston's 9-4 win over the Atlanta Braves helped by Cody Ross, who hit two homers and drove in five runs for the Red Sox.

Youkilis was traded to the White Sox for utilityman Brent Lillibridge and right-hander Zach Stewart after the game.

Youkilis was lifted for a pinch-runner after hitting a triple in the seventh inning. He was greeted with a hug from Nick Punto, who pinch-ran for him, and many of his teammates on the top step of the dugout.

The burley infielder, in his ninth season with the Red Sox, took his helmet off and waved to the crowd, blew a kiss and was urged to come out for a curtain call by his teammates before heading down the steps. He was given a lengthy standing ovation and the fans chanted "Yook."

AP

Boston Red Sox's Cody Ross, right, celebrates his three-run home run that also drove in Boston Red Sox's Dustin Pedroia (15) in the fourth inning of an interleague baseball game against the Atlanta Braves in Boston, Sunday, June 24, 2012.

Yankees 6, Mets 5

In New York, Robinson Cano hit a tiebreaking homer in the eighth inning as the New York Yankees touched up R.A. Dickey for five runs in a victory over the Mets.

Nick Swisher had an early three-run shot against Dickey, who was coming off consecutive one-hitters — making him the first major league pitcher in 24 years to accomplish that feat. But in a much-anticipated matchup at sold-out Citi Field, both he and Yankees ace CC Sabathia were missing their best stuff.

Cano drove a 2-0 delivery from Miguel Batista (1-2) over the home run apple in straightaway center for his 16th homer and fifth in seven games. The Yankees won the final two games of the weekend series by one run to finish 5-1 against their crosstown rivals this season.

Including a sweep in the Bronx earlier this month, the Yankees have won five consecutive series against the Mets since May 2010.

Twins 4, Reds 3

In Cincinnati, Josh Willingham hit a two-run homer in the ninth inning off shaky closer Aroldis Chapman, rallying Minnesota over the Reds.

Joe Mauer opened the ninth with a double off the left field wall against Chapman (4-4). Willingham followed with his 15th homer of the season.

Willingham's homer overcame Joey Votto's eighth-inning, two-run homer that had given the Reds a 3-2 lead.

Rangers 4, Rockies 2

In Arlington, Texas, Matt Harrison worked five scoreless innings for his 10th victory and Leonys Martin had a pair of extra-base hits for his first three RBIs in the majors as Texas beat Colorado.

Martin, the Cuban defector who signed with the Rangers last year, had an RBI double in the second and a two-run triple an inning later.

Harrison (10-3) won his sixth consecutive decision. His outing was cut short because of tightness in his lower back that caused soreness in his left hip.

Marlins 9, Blue Jays 0

In Miami, Mark Buehrle pitched effectively for seven innings to become the most successful in interleague play, and John Buck hit a three-run homer as Florida snapped a six-game losing streak with a win over Toronto.

Greg Dobbs had a two-run homer among his three hits for the Marlins, winners for just the third time in 18 games.

Buehrle (6-8) gave up seven hits in winning his 25th interleague matchup, breaking a tie with Freddy Garcia. Buehrle struck out seven.

Orioles 2, Nationals 1

In Baltimore, Matt Wieters hit a two-run homer in the eighth inning to interrupt Baltimore's agonizing offensive struggle in a win over Washington.

Baltimore appeared headed for its third shutout loss in six games before Adam Jones led off the eighth with a single off Sean Burnett (0-1) and Wieters drove an 0-1 pitch over the center-field wall.

Pedro Strop (4-2) got the final out in the eighth for Baltimore and Jim Johnson worked the ninth for his 22nd save.

Tigers 3, Pirates 2

In Pittsburgh, Justin Verlander pitched a five-hitter and Quintin Berry hit a two-run shot for his first major league home run as Detroit avoided a sweep with a win over Pittsburgh.

Berry also scored the go-ahead run on Delmon Young's single in the eighth, an inning after Garrett Jones tied it with a two-run homer.

Verlander (8-4) had allowed only two infield hits through six innings before Pedro Alvarez singled with one out in the seventh. Jones followed with his homer.

Berry's homer off of Kevin Correia four pitches into the game was his first in 96 career big league at-bats. Austin Jackson singled ahead of Berry.

Rays 3, Phillies 2, 1st game
Rays 7, Phillies 3, 2nd game

In Philadelphia, Brooks Conrad hit a pair of two-run doubles off winless Philadelphia ace Cliff Lee as Tampa Bay swept a day-night doubleheader.

Lee (0-4) allowed five runs and six hits in seven innings. The 2008 AL Cy Young Award winner hasn't won a game since last Sept. 26.

Brandon Gomes (2-2) earned the win with 2 2-3 scoreless innings.

In the opener, Carlos Pena hit a three-run homer in the eighth off Antonio Bastardo (2-2). Phillies starter Cole Hamels pitched three-hit ball for seven shutout innings.

Astros 7, Indians 1

In Houston, Chris Johnson homered and drove in three runs, and J.D. Martinez hit a two-run homer to lead Houston over Cleveland for their its series since taking two of three from the White Sox in June 8-10.

Houston starter J.A. Happ (6-7) got his second consecutive win by allowing four hits and a run in seven innings.

Cardinals 11, Royals 8

In Kansas City, Carlos Beltran had three RBIs, and Matt Holliday and Allen Craig each drove in two runs, powering St. Louis to a victory and its first three-game sweep in Kansas City since 2009.

Mike Moustakas had two home runs for the Royals, who gave up 41 hits and 30 runs to their state rivals in the three games.

White Sox 1, Brewers 0, 10 innings

In Chicago, pinch-hitter Eduardo Escobar lined an RBI single in the 10th inning as the Chicago White made it an adventuresome afternoon, beating Milwaukee.

After the game the White Sox acquired All-Star infielder Kevin Youkilis and cash from Boston in a trade for infielder Brent Lillibridge and right-handed pitcher Zach Stewart.

Alejandro De Aza opened the White Sox 10th with a double off Manny Parra (0-2). Adam Dunn walked with one out and Escobar, batting for Lillibridge, singled.

Padres 2, Mariners 0

In San Diego, Edinson Volquez pitched four-hit ball into the seventh inning and Alexi Amarista hit a two-run double as San Diego beat Seattle.

Volquez (4-7) was in command for 6 2-3 innings and was not hurt by the control issues that have hampered him this season.

Volquez, who leads the majors in walks with 55, walked three but was rarely stressed by the Mariners. The right-hander combined with three relievers for the five-hitter.

Angels 5, Dodgers 3

In Anaheim, California, Mark Trumbo drove in Albert Pujols with the tiebreaking run in the seventh inning as the Angels won their season series with the Dodgers for the third straight year.

Peter Bourjos hit an early two-run homer and Howie Kendrick added another RBI single in the seventh for the Angels, who won four of six in the Freeway Series.

Bobby Abreu and Dee Gordon drove in early runs for the slumping Dodgers, who have lost six straight series to the Angels.

Athletics 4, Giants 2

In Oakland, California, Derek Norris hit a three-run shot with two outs in the ninth inning for his first major league home run as Oakland walked off with a stunning victory over San Francisco.

Norris hammered a full-count pitch from Santiago Casilla (1-3) over the left-field wall to help the A's avoid the first three-game sweep by San Francisco in Oakland.

Buster Posey's two-run homer in the first was all the Giants could squeeze out against A.J. Griffin.

Diamondbacks 5, Cubs 1

In Phoenix, Wade Miley outpitched Matt Garza in eight strong innings and Justin Upton had three RBIs as Arizona completed a three-game sweep with a victory over the Chicago Cubs.

Miley (9-3) retired 20 of the first 21 batters he faced before giving up a homer to Alfonso Soriano in the seventh inning, then worked out of a jam in the eighth with runners on second and third.

Jason Kubel hit a solo homer off Garza (2-6) and Upton broke open a tight game with a two-run single through the left side off Manny Corpas in the eighth inning.

Wade's knee may keep him out of London Games

MIAMI (AP)—Dwyane Wade played with knee pain throughout the playoffs. He'll soon know exactly what was causing that problem, and if it could keep him out of the London Olympics.

One day after celebrating his second NBA championship, the Miami Heat guard told The Associated Press on Friday that he will soon have his ailing left knee examined, and acknowledges that surgery may be a possibility. Wade appeared in all 23 postseason games for Miami, averaging 22.8 points, and scored 20 in the title-clinching win for the Heat against Oklahoma City on Thursday night.

"I've got to make a decision on what my knee needs and what's best, because my career and finishing my career strong is what's important to me," Wade said. "And I know, yeah, the Olympics are coming up. It's something I really want to do. But at the same time, if I have to make a big decision, if something has to happen surgery-wise, that will have to be a step I have to take. My loyalty and my commitment to Miami Heat basketball is the No. 1 thing."

An MRI exam will likely take place in the next few days. Wade had the knee drained during Miami's second-round series against Indiana.

"From my small conversations with the doctor at that time, I think some kind of cleanup process might have to go on," Wade said. "And when that happens, from our previous experiences, it takes a while to recover. So I want to make sure that I want to recover strong and not like I did the last knee surgery that I had."

Wade had surgery on his left knee in May 2007. He led the Americans in scoring at the Beijing Olympics, averaging 16 points despite coming off the bench in all eight games.

USA Basketball plans to have the national team convene in Las Vegas and for training camp to start there on July 6. From there, the American team will go to Washington to begin training on July 13, with more sessions beginning July 17 in Manchester, England, and July 20 in Barcelona. The Olympics begin July 27 and the first game for the Americans in London is against France two days later.

The time demands could be daunting, especially with this NBA season ending a bit later than usual because schedule changes necessitated by the lockout.

"This is the hand that's dealt to us," Wade said. "And I'm going to take this hand, I'm not going to complain and I'm going to move forward."

Wade said Heat doctors and trainers worked with him to find ways of ensuring that playing in the postseason would not make whatever the knee problem is any worse. He also spent time with his longtime trainer, Tim Grover.

"You know what, I was playing in a lot of pain," Wade said. "Obviously, my knee has been an issue. I sat down with the doctors a little bit during the Indiana series and talked about the possibility of what's to come. But I didn't want to think about it then. I said, `Listen, let's just do what we have to do to make sure that I can give my all.' And they did that. I thank them for that."

He said he was sitting on his couch watching television on Friday when his thoughts turned to his hopes of being able to play in London. At that moment, he said an Olympic commercial appeared on his screen.

"Got a little emotional," Wade said. "I loved what we had and what we shared as a unit. The possibility of not being able to do that, man, it's a little different."

Marc Leishman shoots 62 to win Travelers

CROMWELL, Conn. (AP)—Marc Leishman's victory at the Travelers Championship came hours after he watched fellow Australian Marcus Fraser lose in a playoff on the European Tour.

Both are coached by Denis McDade and Leishman said he wanted to give McDade at least one win Sunday.

"That was actually a little bit of incentive for me," said Leishman, who earned his first Tour win. "I was watching before I teed off, Frase on TV. (I was) trying to get one for Denis, so it was good to be able to be able to do it."

Leishman shot an 8-under 62, but didn't secure his first Tour win until Charley Hoffman blew a two-stroke lead on the final two holes.

The 28-year-old began the day six strokes behind the leaders, but made eight birdies in a bogey-free round. He finished at 14-under 266.

"I didn't think it was going to be enough," he said. "Golf is a funny game, a really funny game."

Hoffman was 16 under heading to the 17th hole, but pushed his tee shot right and into the water. He made a double bogey, and bogeyed the 18th after failing to get up and down from a greenside bunker.

"When it's said and done, obviously a bad finish and a bad taste in my mouth, but you learn from it," he said. "Any time you put yourself in contention, you learn from that."

Hoffman closed with a 66 to tie for second with Masters champion Bubba Watson, who shot a 65.

AP

Marc Leishman, of Australia, celebrates with the trophy after winning the Travelers Championship golf tournament in Cromwell, Conn., Sunday, June 24, 2012.

Leishman became the fifth player in seven years to break through with their first tour win at River Highlands, joining Fredrik Jacobson last year, Watson in 2010, Hunter Mahan in 2007 and J.J. Henry in 2006.

Leishman's 62 was the lowest score in a final round by a champion on tour this season.

"You'd almost rather make a few birdies coming in to win, rather than have someone hand it to you," he said. "But having said that, I'm not going to give this back or anything."

Watson made a run at the lead on the front nine, with four birdies. But he had to scramble on the back nine, saving par on the 15th after putting his tee shot in the water. He also made par on 17 after hitting his second shot over the water and onto the green from the rough.

"Just didn't finish it off on the back," he said. "I made my run and just didn't kind of really have anything after that."

Roland Thatcher, who was tied for the lead after three rounds, began his day with three bogeys on the first six holes. He seemed like an afterthought, until Hoffman's collapse. But he made an eagle on the par-5 13th after hitting his second shot within 15 feet of the pin.

He came to No. 18 with a chance to force a playoff, but put his second shot into a greenside bunker and bogeyed the hole.

"You never want to take the lead going into Sunday and then need two birdies on the last two holes to catch up," he said.

He and fellow co-leader Brian Davis both shot 70, putting them in a group at 12 under with Tim Clark and John Rollins.

Clark, who won the 2010 Players Championship, had elbow surgery last August and had missed the cut in five of the previous nine tournaments he played this season.

The course record at River Highlands is 60, set last year by Patrick Cantlay as an amateur. The 20-year-old missed the cut this year in his first professional tournament.

Rory Sabbatini finished six shots behind the leader, but took home a gold Rolex after making his first hole-in-one on tour. His shot on the 161-foot 16th hole hit and spun left into the hole.

"It felt really good coming off the club," he said. "It was just a question of having the right yardage. I kind of joked in the middle of the ball flight, and I said, `Be the right one and go in the hole.'"

Hunter Mahan shot a career-low 61 and tied for 11th.

Mahan, in the first pair of the day, joked that he was just trying to play fast and not hold up the field. He opened with five pars before making nine birdies on the final 13 holes.

"Your adrenaline is pumping more than you are nervous, because nothing really bad can happen," he said. "I was just trying to hit it close and make a putt."

Italy beats England on penalties at Euro 2012, 4-2

KIEV, Ukraine (AP)—After two hours of clever, often dominating but in the end fruitless play, Italy found the answer against England.

Penalty kicks.

Alessandro Diamanti scored the decisive kick Sunday to send Italy through to the European Championship semifinals with a 4-2 win in the shootout following a 0-0 tie with England.

Italy will next play Germany in the semifinals on Thursday in Warsaw, Poland. Defending champion Spain plays Portugal on Wednesday in Donetsk, Ukraine.

"We deserved this victory," Diamanti said. "The penalties rewarded our dominance during the match. It's only fair, we played a great match and battled from the first to the last minute."

But not until penalties by Mario Balotelli, Andrea Pirlo—with an audacious slow chip-shot down the middle of the goal—and Antonio Nocerino did the Azzurri find the net. Steven Gerrard and Wayne Rooney scored England's penalties.

The difference: Ashley Young hit the crossbar with England's third, and Ashley Cole's attempt was saved by Gianluigi Buffon.

For England, it was yet another exit from a major tournament in the quarterfinals after a penalty shootout. England lost to Portugal in the same manner at Euro 2004 and the 2006 World Cup.

"It's obviously a hard way to go out," England striker Wayne Rooney said. "And it's maybe happened too many times now."

England briefly led the shootout after Riccardo Montolivo missed Italy's second penalty. His shot went wide of Joe Hart's right post as the England goalkeeper guessed correctly.

Rooney then sent Buffon the wrong way, firing in his spot kick to the keeper's right to give England a 2-1 lead.

The momentum shifted after Pirlo's bold piece of skill leveled it 2-2.

"I just saw that the goalkeeper was moving a bit earlier so I decided to play it the other way," Pirlo said. "It just comes to you at that moment and it went well."

Not for England.

"We have done the country proud, but again we go home with heartbreak and it's difficult to take," said Gerrard, who played in both those previous shootout losses.

The match ended 0-0 after 120 minutes of play. The Italians twice hit the post, but were also let down by poor composure in front of the net. Diamanti clipped the post with a curling cross in the 101st minute, and swept a shot wide in the clearest chance of the second period of extra time.

Nocerino, another substitute, thought he had scored from Diamanti's cross in the 115th but was offside.

Daniele De Rossi hit the post in the third minute, and Buffon saved a shot from Glen Johnson in the fifth.

The first scoreless match at Euro 2012 was neither dull nor lacking good soccer.

Italy's attacking desire and creativity under coach Cesare Prandelli had playmaker Pirlo at its heart. Italy had 35 shots, compared to only nine for England.

An intriguing match almost demanded that Balotelli take center stage. The Italy forward ran clear in the 25th, but hesitated and allowed John Terry to block his chipped shot.

Balotelli forced Hart, his teammate at Manchester City, to save an acrobatic shot, then surged between England's central defenders before putting a half-volley over the crossbar. He kicked the goal post in frustration.

Italy continued surging in the second half and De Rossi, taking a ball over his shoulder, scuffed his shot wide. De Rossi sank to his knees in obvious exasperation, and more Italian frustration quickly followed.

Three rapid-fire chances in the 52nd saw Hart beat away De Rossi's long-range shot, block Balotelli's follow-up and watch Montolivo lash the loose ball high.

England coach Roy Hodgson had to react to Italy's dominance, and sent on substitutes Andy Carroll and Theo Walcott, who both scored in a 3-2 win over Sweden.

Carroll's muscular presence created a shooting chance for Young, but England still failed to convince. Rooney made little impression after an early diving header.

De Rossi was replaced by Nocerino and the substitute threatened in the 89th. He took another crafty pass from Pirlo on the run, but Johnson tracked back to block.

Deep into injury time, Italian defensive jitters created a chance for Rooney but his overhead kick sailed high.

Then it was on to penalties. And Diamante's heroics.

"Getting to this point is a huge satisfaction," Diamanti said. "I always believed I would, even when I played in the inter-regional division—I just never told anyone, because they would have thought I was crazy."

Fujita sees bounty probe as part smear campaign

NEW ORLEANS (AP)—Former Saints linebacker Scott Fujita, a union leader with a record of criticizing the NFL's player-safety record, sees elements of a "smear campaign" in a bounty investigation that has sullied his reputation.

Some NFL players agree, and question whether Fujita's three-game suspension has something to do with retribution.

"I'm not saying the NFL is intentionally lying," Fujita said in an interview with The Associated Press. "I've been willing to give them the benefit of the doubt that they may have just been working with the information they've been given, even though much of that information was inaccurate and lacked credibility.

"It's their cavalier interpretation of everything that's been way off. They clearly proceeded with a public smear campaign with very little regard for the truth."

NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell could rule on the appeals of Fujita and the other players suspended because of their roles in the bounty program as early as Monday.

Saints linebacker Scott Shanle finds it hard to ignore the symmetry of the NFL portraying Fujita as a hypocrite on player-safety matters after Fujita had done the same thing to the league.

"When you look at Scott, who was here for one season (of the three spanned by the bounty probe), for him to get three games, I just felt like there had to be more of a personal issue with that," Shanle said. "When you look at how outspoken he is and a lot of the issues he tries to address, it probably doesn't sit well with the league."

Nelvis tops first-ever 10-ball tourney

Mark Brian Nelvis defeated Eugene Borja in the finals to win the first-ever 10-Ball Billiards Tournament held last Saturday at Joe's Bar.

A total of nine players joined the first night of the tourney with Nelvis taking out Luis Fajardo, 2-0, in the first round before prevailing over Juancho Mendoza, 2-1, in the quarterfinals.

He barged into the finals after outlasting Taylor Watanabe, 2-0, in the semifinals to arrange the finals tiff against Borja.

Borja, meanwhile, got the better of Chester Cuento, 2-1, and Victor Hocog, 2-1, to advance to the finals opposite Nelvis.

In the finals, Nelvis won the first game after Borja missed on the 8-ball. Borja won the second game after Brian misfired on the 7-ball.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

First-ever 10-Ball Billiards Tournament winner Mark Brian Nelvis is flanked by runners-up Eugene Borja, left, and Chester Cuento after the competition last Saturday at Joe's Bar.

Nelvis then captured the championship in the third game after pocketing the first eight balls before playing a safety shot on the 9-ball.

Borja missed a tough cut shot on the 9-ball, giving the table back to Nelvis, proceeded to run the last two balls—9-ball and 10-ball—giving him the distinction title of being the first-ever 10-ball champion.

He earned $50 plus a case of Miller Lite beer and a Miller Lite T-shirt. Borja also won cash and 12-pack of Miller Lite, while third place Cuento also won cash and a 12-pack of Miller Lite.

Joe's Bar is inviting Saipan's best pool players to join the first 10-Ball Billiards Tournament sponsored by Miller Lite.

The double-elimination tournament is held every Saturday starting 9pm. A handicap system based on the shooting skill of the player is used. Entrance fee is $10. Joe's Bar is located in front of Fiesta Resort Saipan. ***(Saipan Tribune)***

AD 31

From Page 28

8 Division, which absorbed its fourth loss against Docomo last Saturday, first fell to a 1-3 card after a monumental collapse against AD 31. 8 Division led by as much as 27 points in the second quarter before things fell apart for the team, starting in the third period.

8 Division was held to 12 points in the third canto, while AD 31 erupted for 32 points, slicing the 23-point halftime deficit (22-45) to three, 54-57, with still a full quarter to go.

Young guns Rodney Sacramento and Lester Vertudez anchored AD 31's comeback in the third period with the former firing 10 points and the latter adding 9 markers. Arman Anasan and Dexter Tenorio also did their share in the rally, combining for 12 markers.

8 Division was limited to four field goals in the third canto with only Daniel Dela Cruz and Jun Hernandez scoring more than 2 points. It never recovered from the breakdown in the fourth period, while Sacramento and company continued eating up 8 Division's lead to complete the come-from-behind win. Sacarmento nailed 7 of 8 Division's first 9 points, while Aries Olivos came from the bench and made all his 5 markers in the homestretch to seal the victory.

Sacramento led all scorers with 26, while Vertudez and Tenorio chipped in 19 and 11, respectively. Dela Cruz paced 8 Division with his 24 markers.

Fastbreakers 95, R-Lyn's 56

In the Bracket B match, the Fastbreakers ended their regular season campaign with a bang, whipping R-Lyn's.

The Fastbreakers finished the elimination with a 6-1 record, tied with KFC, but lost in the tiebreak for the No. 1 spot in Bracket B as the latter won over the former in their only meeting this season.

R-Lyn's dropped to a 1-3 card and may need to sweep its last three games to remain in the hunt for a playoff seat. With KFC and the Fastbreakers already assured of tickets to the next round, only two playoff seats will be contested by five teams. Wushin with its winless record (0-6) is out of the race. Joining R-Lyn's in the battle for the two remaining playoff berths are Banahaw (3-2), San Roque (2-2), Sinigang (1-3), and Gualo Rai (1-3).

The Fastbreakerss had the game against R-Lyn's in the bag as early as the first period, leading at 28-11. The Fastbreakers consistently scored 20-plus points in the next two quarters to pad the lead before slowing down in the fourth canto where R-Lyn's matched the former's output of 17 points.

Adrian Palacios top-scored for the Fastbreakers with 16 and he had four other teammates breaking into double figures. Aaron Engelhardt and John Capuyon Sr. tallied 13 apiece for R-Lyn's.

First Game

Fastbreakers 95 – Palacios 16, Aranda 12, Isip 12, De Leon 11, Cadiang 10, Taylor 8, Olfindo 8, Manangan 6.

R-Lyn's 56 – Engelhardt 13, Capuyon Sr. 13, M. Puno 10, Echavez 8, N. Puno 5, Capuyon Jr. 3, Buniag 2, Buenabajo 2.

Scoring by quarters: 28-11, 48-24, 77-39, 95-56.

Second Game

AD 31 72 – Sacramento 26, Vertudez 19, Tenorio 11, Anasan 9, Olivos 5, Palomique 2.

8 Division 69 – Dela Cruz 24, Detera 14, Alano 10, Reyes 9, Hernandez 9, Jacob 2.

Scoring by quarters: 8-19, 45-22, 54-57, 72-69.

WBO

From Page 28

sion reached by the review panel of judges wasn't even close.

In all their scorecards, Pacquiao dominated Bradley—117-111, 117-111, 118-110, 116-112 and, the closest, 115-113.

'I was vindicated'

Informed of the panel's decision, Pacquiao told the *Philippine Daily Inquirer* over the phone he was happy "the findings of the five-man panel of the WBO declared me as the winner. I am happy that in the end I was vindicated."

The 12-round fight held at MGM Grand Arena in Las Vegas had shockingly gone Bradley's way, with judges Duane Ford and CJ Ross scoring it 115-113 for the unbeaten American. Judge Jerry Roth also saw it 115-113, but in Pacquiao's favor.

Despite the panel's verdict, however, the WBO won't reverse the original decision or force Bradley to surrender the crown.

"The only thing that we can do is authorize a rematch," Valcarcel said. "We cannot go any further than that. That is in our rules."

'Truth has come out'

Pacquiao knows a reversal of the decision is far-fetched.

"To me it's no longer important if the WBO would not overturn the decision of the judges," Pacquiao said. "The truth has come out and boxing fans got the justice they deserve."

He said in a radio interview that even if Bradley decided to give him his welterweight belt back, he would not accept it.

Top Rank honcho Bob Arum, who promotes both Pacquiao and Bradley, was also elated by the result of the review, which was done without the ringside commentaries that accompanied the earlier fight.

"That's a Solomon-like conclusion," Arum told RingTV.com. "Paco is a good man, he really is. I have great respect for him and what he says.

"It's appropriate for him to make that final conclusion."

Fight with Marquez

Valcarcel, who awarded Pacquiao with a diamond ring symbolic of his selection as Fighter of the Decade two days before the bout, said Bradley's manager Cameron Dunkin was also furnished the result of the review.

The 80-year-old Arum, however, isn't too keen about an immediate rematch between Pacquiao and Bradley as it may not be financially viable.

What the Hall of Fame promoter has in mind is a fourth showdown between Pacquiao and the Mexican Juan Manuel Marquez possibly on November 10—and in Mexico.

Pacquiao said he was leaving his options open and would decide by the second and third week of July.

"It's okay if we [him and Bradley] will have a rematch. Marquez is also in line and so is (Floyd) Mayweather and anybody else my promoter chooses."

Up to Manny

For Arum, however, the decision rests entirely with Pacquiao.

"My first stop on any quest to determine what to do next is that I have to talk to the guy who is the money generator, and that's Manny Pacquiao," Arum said.

"Then I have to determine after discussions with him what he wants to do next and we'll go from there. Until Manny makes a determination, then I'm like a dog chasing its tail."

The uproar the dubious decision generated was so loud that US Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid and Senator John McCain proposed legislation calling for the formation of a national boxing commission.

Reid, a Democrat from Nevada who used to fight as an amateur middleweight, while McCain, a Republican from Arizona who used to box when he attended the US Naval Academy, introduced legislation that would create the United States Boxing Commission.

The Nevada State Athletic Commission, which supervised the June 9 bout that generated nearly $9 million in gate receipts and probably over 900,000 pay-per-view buys (roughly equivalent to $50 million), also intends to review the fight footage with the three judges who rewarded Bradley with the split decision.

WBO challenged: Right wrong

Pacquiao, recently named by *Forbes* magazine as the world's second highest-paid athlete (after Floyd Mayweather) with earnings of $62 million last year, said it wasn't just a victory for him but for boxing fans and his countrymen.

"May this serve as a lesson to the judges," said Pacquiao. "I just hope this would restore the trust of the people in boxing."

While Pacquiao, a representative from Sarangani, has accepted the loss of his title, his chief of staff in Congress, lawyer Jeng Gacal, is unsatisfied with what transpired.

"I am challenging the WBO to correct a wrong," Gacal told the Inquirer.

"They found an injustice and stared at it blankly. They should correct it. They should do what is right and just," Gacal said. "Otherwise they will be allowing incompetence and (perhaps) corruption to prevail."

After attending to the needs of his flashflood-ravaged constituents in Sarangani, Pacquiao and wife Jinkee flew to Vigan City on Thursday to attend the birthday celebration of Ilocos Sur Governor Chavit Singson.

The Pacquiaos, however, did not use their newly purchased helicopter for the flight to Vigan.

Thanking God

The couple will be returning to the United States on Saturday to rejoin their four children who were left behind and continue their family vacation.

Pacquiao told Vigan reporters: "I am happy that the truth came out. I thank all the people and God."

Pacquiao said his next opponent had yet to be decided, adding he had yet to talk with Arum about a rematch with Bradley.

YVONNE

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squad, she will provide the needed leadership for our young team. Both Yvonne and Lia had been through the Oceania championships, so they knew what type of competition they are up to," Elias Rangamar said.

"With Yvonne and Lia going to Australia, we have a strong team in both the women's relay and mixed. NMA is really excited how our team will perform in the relays," he added.

Yvonne joined the championship last year in Apia, Samoa and advanced to the finals of all three races (100m, 200m, and 400m) she competed it, shattered records, and won one gold medal and two bronze. She set the CNMI and Micronesian records in the 100m (12.52 seconds) and 200m (25.67 seconds) races and claimed bronze medals in these sprint events. In the 400m, she missed her personal best and CNMI mark (57.14 seconds) after posting 57.66 seconds, but won the gold medal in her longest race in the 2011 competition.

Lia debuted in the championship in 2010, joining the U20 division and winning a silver medal in the javelin throw. Her 35.17m in the women's javelin throw also eclipsed the 29-year-old CNMI national record of Emiliana Quitugua, who posted 34.68m in the first Pacific Mini Games in Honiara, Solomon Islands in 1981.

This year, Lia will be the first CNMI athlete to compete in 2012 edition of the annual event, as she will participate in the javelin throw for U20 division tomorrow, battling New Zealand's Tori Peeters, Australia's Tori West, and Norfolk Island's Brianna Stephens.

Bennett will also compete on the first day of the championship, racing in the 200m run against Vanuatu, Fiji, New Zealand, Australia, Niue, and Papua New Guinea runners.

"Yvonne just finished her season with BSU last month, so she still has the momentum although she is a bit tired. She will have only two races, so I know she is up to it," Bennett said.

ZAPANTA

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days and then they went on to defensive principles. There was even a brief medical session so we can improve the health and condition of our players. Our days alternated between theoretical sessions in the classroom and practical sessions at the pitch," Zapanta said.

"There were even a couple of nights where we stayed up late, preparing for our practical exams. We had three practical exams, two theory exams, and one on the laws of the game. In the middle of the festival, the coaches help conduct skills tests for kids," he added.

The new C license coach also said the course allowed him to interact with coaches from other countries and learn from them, too.

Now that Zapanta holds an AFC C licence, he hopes to become a better coach and help NMIFA develop players who will represent the CNMI in future competitions.

"It is important that NMIFA improves the quality and increases the pool of local coaches. I love the sport and being a coach is one way of getting involved with the sport more. It is a great feeling knowing that you can be a big influence to people, especially to our youth. Seeing the kids grow and improve is great news for CNMI football," said Zapanta, who last Saturday led Shirley's FC to a title win in the NMIFA women's league.

2012 NMIFA Women's League Finals

PHOTOS BY ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Shirley's and Paire players pose for a group photo after their title game in the 2012 NMIFA Women's League last Saturday at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.

Paire and Shirley's players exchange hi-fives after the more than the two-hour finale.

Players of Shirley's FC pose with their championship trophy.

KSPN 2's Bob Coldeen, right, takes footages of a jubilant Shirley's FC squad.

Paire goalie Temary Gramlich catches the ball.

Shirley's players start to line up for defense.

Paire's Natalie Hill goes for a kick.

Shirley's Jeralyn Castillo, right, dribbles against Paire's Nola Hix.

Paire's Amber Roberts, right, dribbles against a Shirley's FC defender.

Shirley's and Paire players battle for the ball.

Marc Leishman shoots 62 to win Travelers

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Saipan Tribune
Sports

Ross homers twice in Boston's 9-4 win over Braves

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO

From left, Lia Rangamar, Reylynn Sapong, Yvonne Bennett, Michael Mancao, Beo Ngirchongor, and Rachel Abrams pose for a group photo after a training session at the Oleai Sports Complex last Saturday.

Yvonne, Lia make Oceania trip

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Record-holders Yvonne Bennett and Lia Rangamar have been added to the CNMI Team, beefing up the Commonwealth's roster in the Oceania Regional Championships 2012 that will kick off tomorrow at the Barlow Park in Cairns, Australia.

Northern Marianas Athletics official Elias Rangamar said Bennett was included on the Commonwealth's roster after getting clearance from her school (Boise State University) where she is a member of the women's track team, while Rangamar also made the list after fixing some glitch in her school and work schedule. Bennett just arrived from Idaho last Saturday and joined Lia Rangamar, Rachel Abrams, Reylynn Sapong, Beo Ngirchongor, Michael Mancao, and Orrin Pharmin, on a connecting flight from Guam to Australia last Sunday.

"With Yvonne joining the

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Zapanta gets AFC C license certificate

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Ruselle Zapanta, third from left, and other coaches listen to their instructor before starting the practical session of the AFC "C" Certificate Course at the China National Football Training Centre in China last month.

Ruselle Zapanta made the grade in last April's coaching course in China to earn an AFC C license certificate.

"Ruselle took the AFC "C" Certificate Course in China, while the U14 boys were competing and we were recently informed that he passed the test and was issued a certificate," Northern Mariana Islands Football Association general secretary Ed Salas said in an email to *Saipan Tribune*.

The course took place at the China National Football Training Centre near Xhianghe-Hebei Province, just outside Beijing, from April 15 to 30, according to Zapanta. He added he was one of the 23 participants in the 15-day course, joining eight coaches from China, two from Guam, South Korea, North Korea, Mongolia, and Japan, and one each from Macau and Chinese-Taipei.

AFC elite coaching instructor Kwok Ka Ming of Hong Kong and his assistant Jessie Fan Yun Jie conducted the course that were divided into theoretical and practical sessions.

"The course aimed at teaching us how to coach and improving our basic coaching knowledge and skills. The instructors gave us knowledge on how to plan a training session and conduct a session. They also taught us attacking principles the first few

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WBO says Pacquiao won over Bradley

AP

Congressman and former welterweight world champion Manny Pacquiao flashes the sign of peace during a mass in a Catholic church Saturday, June 16, 2012 in Manila, Philippines.

By ROY LUARCA
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

An official review showed Manny Pacquiao to be the undisputed winner but the Filipino ring icon, feeling vindicated, said he would not accept the welterweight crown the judges had taken from him and given to Timothy Bradley—even if the American gave it back.

Pacquiao would rather that the title be declared vacant by the World Boxing Organization (WBO), which had sanctioned the controversial June 9 bout.

And in a jab at ring judges, Pacquiao said the fight should serve them a lesson.

Pacquiao made the statements after a five-member WBO panel confirmed Thursday what everybody knows—that he was the lopsided winner in his fight with Bradley.

If it's any consolation to Pacquiao and his fans, Boxrec.com, which chronicles the ring records of all boxers, put a footnote to Bradley's record: "After a thorough review by five veteran judges commissioned by the WBO, Pacquiao was declared the unanimous decision winner by the panel."

WBO president Francisco "Paco" Valcarcel told RingTV.com that the unanimous deci-

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AD 31 keeps playoff hopes alive

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

AD 31 stayed in contention for a playoff spot in the 2012 DLX/DL JOS Inter-Color Basketball League after slipping past 8 Division last Friday night at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

AD 31 finished the round-robin elimination with a 3-4 record for fourth place in the team standings in Bracket A behind Team Pogi (4-1), DLS/Irish Spring (3-1), and Docomo (3-3). Only the Top 4 teams will move to the playoff round and with AD 31 done for the regular season, its chances of making in to the next stage of the league will now depend on the performance of the bottom of squads: Mawati (2-1), Marianas Water (2-2), LD Prime (1-3), and 8 Division (1-4).

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO

AD 31's Rodney Sacramento, seen here pulling up for a jumper against Team Pogi's Brian Chan, scored 26 points in their 72-69 win over 8 Division in the DLX/DL JOS caging last Friday at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.